FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-93-112
Monday
14 June 1993

Daily Report
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FBIS-NES-93-112 14 June 1993

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Inter-Arab Affairs

Damascus Declaration Conference Held in Abu Dhabi

Syria's Al-Shar' Arrives for Meetings

JN1206170293 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1635 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 12 Jun (SANA)—[Syrian] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' arrived in Abu Dhabi this evening to participate in the seventh conference of the foreign ministers of the Damascus Declaration states, which will be held 12-13 June.

On arrival at Abu Dhabi Airport, al-Shar' was received by Rashid Bin-'Abdallah al-Na'imi, United Arab Emirates foreign minister; ranking Foreign Ministry officials; Mustafa 'Umran, the Syrian ambassador in Abu Dhabi; and the embassy staff.

The conference will open at 1900 today. The ministers will discuss items on the conference's agenda.

Al-Shar' Comments on Declaration

JN1206180893 Damascus Syrian Arab Television Network in Arabic 1730 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Meetings of the foreign ministers of the Damascus Declaration states began in Abu Dhabi tonight. The meetings will conclude tomorrow, Sunday [13 June].

The Syrian foreign minister emphasized that the Damascus Declaration represents a framework for Arab action and that its failure means a failure of many joint Arab establishments.

Following his arrival in Abu Dhabi today to attend the meeting, Faruq al-Shar' told journalists that the articles and principles of the declaration will be discussed at the meeting in order to reach a concept of these principles and also to implement them. Al-Shar' said the foreign ministers will discuss the peace process, the results of the ninth round, and what is required from the 10th round in Washington Tuesday. In his statement, he said Syria agrees to Lebanon's joining the Damascus Declaration.

On the Arab economic boycott of Israel, al-Shar' said: This issue is within the powers of the Arab League. We do not think there is deviation from the Arab consensus on this issue. In any case, this issue will be discussed within the framework of the Arab League. He pointed out that Kuwait has emphasized its commitment to the boycott.

Egypt's Musa Comments on Talks

NC1306074993 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0642 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 Jun (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa has stated that in the talks held by the foreign ministers of the Damascus Declaration states in Abu Dhabi yesterday, the participants exchanged views and listened to ideas on ways to implement the declaration's political, economic, and cultural provisions.

In a statement to the MENA correspondent in Abu Dhabi today, Musa denied reports that Egypt had submitted any working papers during yesterday's meetings.

A newspaper in Abu Dhabi reported today that Musa had submitted a working paper on ways to implement the security aspect of the Damascus Declaration.

UAE Official Addresses Ministers

JN1306111493 Abu Dhabi United Arab Emirates Radio Network in Arabic 0930 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Excerpts] His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Zayid Al Nuhayyan, Abu Dhabi heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of the Armed Forces, has stated that the Damascus Declaration is a springboard for strengthening the march of joint Arab action, enabling the Arab nation to devote all of its resources to facing challenges.

His highness was speaking in his office this morning to the foreign ministers of the Damascus Declaration, states who are currently holding their seventh round of meetings in Abu Dhabi. [passage omitted]

His highness pointed out that the current meetings of the Damascus Declaration states' foreign ministers are held amid widespread Arab hopes and aspirations for formulating a new phase built on firm, clear bases, and restoring order to the Arab house in accordance with the requirements of the coming phase and the challenges facing the Arab nation.

His highness said that restoring Arab solidarity is the only path left for the Arabs in order to bypass the current difficult circumstances, noting that providing Arab security in the political, economic, social, and military fields is a joint Arab responsibility. This requires, from the outset, putting an end to Arab differences and backing all efforts aimed at strengthening solidarity and joint action.

His highness said that all eyes are now fixed on the Abu Dhabi meetings. He expressed the hope that the Damascus Declaration states' foreign ministers will reach positive results and come up with effective resolutions concerning the security and stability of their own states, as well as the Arab states in general. [passage omitted]

The ministers ended their third three-hour closed meeting today. A drafting committee of experts from the member states is now preparing the final statements. The final session will be held later this afternoon.

Ministers Issue Closing Statement

JN1306191693 Abu Dhabi United Arab Emirates Radio Network in Arabic 1530 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] The foreign ministers of the Damascus Declaration held their final round of talks this afternoon under the chairmanship of United Arab Emirates [UAE] Foreign Minister Rashid Bin-'Abdallah.

In a press release read by Rashid Bin-'Abdallah at the closing session, the ministers expressed their real apprehension over the foot-dragging by the Iraqi regime over its implementation of fundamental aspects of UN Security Council resolutions relevant to its aggression on the State of Kuwait. The statement cited the Iraqi regime's refusal to free Kuwaiti and other prisoners and detainees and to be bound by the decisions of the UN Technical Commission charged with delineating the border between Iraq and Kuwait. The statement also noted the Iraqi regime's failure to comply with Security Council resolutions which state that it should make legally binding compensation for the damages resulting from its aggression and its procrastination in removing all weapons of mass destruction.

The ministers condemned the Iraqi regime for its continuing hostile utterances and mounting threats to Kuwait and other members of the Gulf Cooperation Council, thereby jeopardizing the security and stability of the region. They emphasized that they stand solidly and firmly behind Kuwait as it seeks to fend off these threats.

The ministers expressed their relief over the work completed by the UN commission charged with delineating the border between Kuwait and Iraq. They welcomed Security Council Resolution 833, which definitively endorses the findings of the UN commission charged with delineating the Kuwait-Iraq border and ensures the sanctity of their international borders in accordance with the provisions of the seventh chapter of the United Nations. The minsiters noted that the resolution represents a real contribution to regional security and stability.

They reiterated their undiminished concern for Iraq's unity and territorial integrity, and held the Iraqi regime fully responsible for the suffering of the Iraqi people as a consequence of its refusal to implement Security Council resolutions relevant to its aggression on Kuwait.

The ministers reviewed the state of relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran and emphasized that Islamic brotherhood dictates the development of these ties. They further stressed that these relations must be based on respect for the territorial integrity of each state and the principle of mutual nonintervention in the interest of peace and stability in the region.

The statement said the ministers looked forward to these objectives being realized so that the interests of all concerned parties could be advanced.

They renewed their total support for the UAE's sovereignty over the islands of Tunb al-Kubra, Tunb al-Sughra, and Abu Musa. They reiterated their support for all the peaceful measures and means pursued by the UAE to regain full sovereignty over the three islands.

The ministers expressed their interest in the desire of the United Arab Emirates and Iran to continue talking to sort out this problem. They stressed that they are in full solidarity with the measures adopted by Saudi Arabia to ensure the safety of the pilgrims to the house of God so that they perform the pilgrimage with ease and peace of mind in keeping with the tolerant tenets of Islam.

Regarding the Middle East peace process, the ministers reiterated their countries' commitments to support the peace negotiations pursuing a just and general settlement of the Palestinian issue and the Arab-Israeli conflict based on Security Council Resolutions 242, 338, and 425, the land-for-peace formula, an Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories—including Jerusalem, the Golan Heights, and south Lebanon—and assuring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people—including their right to self-determination and an independent state on their national soil in the interest of regional security and stability.

The foreign ministers voiced their appreciation for the efforts being exerted by the cosponsors of the peace conference, and urged the United States in particular to play the full partner role and raise it to an effective and objective level based on a total and honest commitment to the principles and the terms of reference of the peace process, especially the land-for-peace formula and the pertinent Security Council resolutions.

Efforts Under Way To Convene Syrian-Israeli Summit

NC1206191693 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 8 Jun 93 p 1

[Text] Three countries are exerting intense efforts to arrange a Syrian-Israeli summit between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin to sort out the differences on the future of Golan and a peace treaty.

A diplomatic source in Cairo affirmed that Israel told the three countries the United States [as published] of the difficulty in achieving progress in the Syrian-Israeli negotiations and asked for a high-level meeting.

Syria announced more than once that it rejects holding such a summit before reaching agreement on the future of the Golan Heights.

Arab League Expresses Concern Over Somalia Events

NC1206123293 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] The Arab League has expressed grave concern over the current developments in Somalia, which it has

described as serious. The Arab League hoped the situation will be contained and that all parties will comply with the decisions adopted during the national reconciliation conference. It called on all parties to use self-restraint, reason, and to avoid escalating the situation, because the Somali people would be the ultimate losers.

Mayhub Mayhubi, head of the Arab League's Arab Department, made these remarks to our radio correspondent today as he commented on the current situation in Somalia.

Palestinian Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Discusses Washington Talks

LD1306220493 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 2100 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Under the chairmanship of the Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, the PLO Executive Committee this evening began meeting in Tunis to discuss the results of the meetings that the Palestinian delegation, headed by Dr Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, recently conducted with the U.S. Administration in Washington.

Palestinian sources mentioned that the meeting will also deal with formulating a working plan for the Palestinian negotiators during the 10th round of peace talks, which will start tomorrow [15 June] in Washington. The same sources added that the Palestinian leadership will also discuss the issue of the Palestinian national dialogue, which has been demanded by some opposition Palestinian factions, to take a stance toward peace and will set a date for the meeting of the Palestine National Council, which has decided to convene in the light of this dialogue. [passage omitted]

PLO's 10-Point Statement on Negotiations Published

JN1306094693 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 13 Jun 93 pp 1, 22

[By Nabil 'Amr]

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee, chaired by Yasir 'Arafat, will meet in Tunis tonight to listen to a report by the negotiating Palestinian delegation on the results of its talks with Edward Djerejian, U.S. assistant secretary of state, in Washington. These talks were aimed at knowing the U.S. views about the 10 Palestinian points submitted to the U.S. Administration following the ninth round of the Arab-Israeli talks.

PLO Executive Committee members Muhammad Zuhdi al-Nashashibi, Yasir 'Amr, and Taysir Khalid will leave Amman for Tunis today. PLO Executive Committee member Bishop Ilya Khuri refused to go to Tunis in the wake of reports from the Tunisian capital denoting the continuation of the negative U.S. position on the Palestinian points and the U.S. Administration's insistence on siding with Israel.

The following is the text of the 10 points, which AL-DUSTUR publishes exclusively:

A. As you may recall, our discussions before the ninth round focused on substantive issues requiring urgent and effective intervention. We were reassured about your commitment to solving the issues, which constituted serious obstacles to the peace process. These assurances included the lifting of the economic siege imposed on the Palestinian people and their leadership, and addressing the issues of human rights, the closure of Jerusalem and the rest of the occupied territories, detainees, demolition of houses, and the use of live ammunition against the citizens. Moreover, we were promised a more serious Israeli policy toward the substance of the negotiations in a manner conforming with the terms of reference of the peace process as well as its principles and aims. The United States has also pledged to play an effective and constructive role as a full unbiased partner.

B. Accordingly, the Palestinian leadership, and President 'Arafat in particular, made the brave and difficult decision to participate [in the talks] despite the painful and difficult circumstances. Having honored its obligations, the Palestinian leadership expected the United States to reciprocate by implementing certain steps on the above-mentioned issues in order to emphasize its credibility and role.

C. The ninth round, which we viewed as a test of commitments and promises for the start of a new qualitative stage in negotiations, was a source of intense disappointment. We took the initiative out of good faith to work by the proposal of a joint declaration of principles and the proposal to form working groups. President 'Arafat has also convinced the Arab parties to extend the negotiations by one week. Nevertheless, we witnessed an escalation in the Israeli repressive measures, something which made a mockery of the entire human rights issue. Even according to Israeli estimates, the month of May 1993 was the bloodiest since the start of negotiations.

D. In the meantime, promises of a U.S. role have not materialized although we continued to remind the U.S. State Department officials of the seriousness of the situation and the need to lift the economic blockade, rescue the institutions, and release the Palestinian funds, reiterating that the situation tolerates no delay. We have constantly stressed the need to lift the siege imposed on Jerusalem and address human rights issues.

Despite your assurances, the economic siege is continuing. We have not received an expected list of human rights measures. Nothing has been realized except the return of 30 deportees. The processions celebrating their return followed the funeral processions of those who had been killed.

Portraying the U.S. position as lacking influence is both unrealistic and unreasonable. The U.S. credibility and its readiness to work with a sincere intention to fulfill its commitments are now at stake.

E. The U.S. role and the tripartite meeting. The promised U.S. role of a full partner was a source of disappointment. The U.S. paper demonstrates bias toward Israel in both language and substance and violates the terms of reference and the U.S. policy itself. The lack of fair dealing was a source of warning to us that the full partner was taking pro-Israeli stands. This also appeared in the issue concerning the information committee on settlements.

F. We do not understand the continued suspension of the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue. It was the PLO that selected and appointed the delegation, gave it the necessary legitimacy to carry out its tasks, and maintained the Palestinian participation in the talks in the face of enormous difficulties. The PLO is making decisions, drawing up policies, and covering the expenses of the delegation. The United States has dealt with these facts indirectly. It is time to begin direct and fair dealing to tackle the problem, which has had a detrimental effect on the peace process and U.S.-Palestinian relations.

The United States, as a sponsor and full partner, deals with all the partners in the negotiations except the Palestinian partner. This is unfair, impractical, and unconstructive. It is necessary to receive a positive answer from you on the resumption of dialogue in order to serve the peace process.

G. We hold the U.S. role on the practical and substantive levels to be based along the broad lines of the U.S. policy and in line with the terms of reference of the peace process. In this context, in preparation for the Washington visit and talks, and in the interest of the peace process, we would like to direct the following questions for urgent study and response:

1. Since you have repeatedly asserted that the overall peace process is based on Resolutions 242 and 338 and the land-for-peace principle, is there a need to ask if this is applied to the negotiations and their results? Is the implementation of these resolutions not the aim of this process as a means of realizing a just, durable, and comprehensive peace?

2. Since the allusion in Resolution 242 is to the territories Israel occupied in 1967, is there any need to ask if these territories are really occupied and, consequently, governed by the principle of withdrawal and the Fourth Geneva Convention?

3. Since the term "occupied territories," as used by the United States means the West Bank, including Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip, is there any reason to dismember and violate the unity of these territories?

4. Since the United States does not recognize Israel's annexation of Jerusalem, the expansion of the city's municipal area, or any other unilateral measures to change the status of the city, is it not essential that the United States should prevent Israel from implementing such measures, especially the settlements inside and around Jerusalem, imposing a siege on and isolating the city as a means of imposing annexation by a fait accompli?

5. The United States believes that the Palestinian side has the right to raise any issue, particularly the issue of Jerusalem, at the negotiating table. It also regards Jerusalem as part of the occupied territories. Does the United States still support incorporating the issue of Jerusalem into the transitional phase negotiations, taking into account that the fate of all Jerusalem will be determined in the final phase negotiations? Should East Jerusalem not be part of the transitional self-rule arrangements?

6. The transitional phase negotiations aim to end occupation and carry out an organized peaceful transfer of power from Israel to the Palestinians. Does this not mean establishing a real self-rule authority with legislative, executive, and judicial powers, and not only specific executive tasks?

7. The transitional phase is a temporary phase required to remove doubts and mistrust and lay the bases for the final phase negotiations in the occupied territories. Does this not constitute a linkage in the substance—in addition to the linkage in timing—which will rule out any moves or agreements that may infringe on the final phase? Is not the transitional phase—as an adaptive phase—clearly a preparation for the permanent situation?

8. As the transitional phase should not infringe on the permanent situation, does this not mean that all options should remain open, provided that they do not conflict with Resolutions 242 and 338 and the land-for-peace principle?

9. As the settlement activities are not only illegal—according to international and human laws—but also an obstacle to peace and a unilateral action violating the terms of reference of the peace process, how can the United States accept such actions and allow Israel to continue this crime, while knowing that this poses a threat to the entire peace process?

10. The U.S. position still says that the peace process should recognize the Palestinian people's legitimate political rights. What is the U.S. definition of these rights?

H. We would like to reiterate our commitment to the peace process as a real means of resolving conflicts and realizing a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace, as well as achieving stability in our region. We also wish to continue the peace process and render it a success by securing respect for its terms of reference and safeguarding its credibility. As part of this commitment, we

are considering your invitation to hold talks in Washington. Consequently, we are raising these issues, so they may receive your consideration and response.

'Arafat: U.S. Position Destroying Peace Process

LD1106194893 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] Brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the PLO's Executive Committee, has addressed the masses of our Palestinian people as our people's blessed intifadah enters its 67th month. In this address, he said that the masses of the revolution, the masses of the PLO, and the masses of the intifadah stood proudly, after these years of occupation, terrorism, repression and oppression, to defy, confront and deal painful blows to the occupation. He added that the masses of the intifadah are now embarking boldly and with a rare determination on a new month of the book of the blessed intifadah.

After all these hot years in the war of extermination launched by Israel against the PLO and against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples, he said, our people have proved that they cannot be uprooted and exterminated. The masses of our people everywhere are moving forward in the process of their revolution, intifidah, and struggle. They have also decided once and for all that the unity of our people cannot be split under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

The brother leader added: These days are proving our people's capacity to possess and deploy all the resources. Thus our people are fighting and negotiating at the same time, just like the Vietnamese and the Algerians fought and negotiated and just like Salah al-Din fought and negotiated. The arms of the knights of the intifadah, the sons of the generation of the contemporary Palestinian revolution, are supporting our negotiating delegations with their fighting and struggle. Our people have also proved that they are capable of taking on the challenge of the negotiation front with the same efficiency, determination, and steadfastness with which they are waging a battle on the front of the intifadah, the resistance, and the other fronts.

The brother leader President Abu-'Ammar went on to say: The ninth round of the bilateral negotiations was a bitter experience because it highlighted the United States' decision to avoid playing the fair and unbiased role that its commitments and assurances to the Arab parties obligate it and that its role as a major sponsor of the overall peace process also obligates it. This U.S. stand, which is expressed in the form of positions in support of Israel, constitutes a destruction [taqwid] of the peace process and an encouragement of the positions of the Israeli Government which violates the point of reference of the peace process and its objectives. The U.S. silence on the increasing violations of Palestinian human rights in the occupied territory and on the isolation of Jerusalem, the confiscation of lands and the building of settlements and the blockade, the killings, the starvation, and the destruction of our people's economic infrastructure raises questions about the credibility of the U.S. role and the credibility of the slogans about respect for human rights.

The brother president went on to say: We recently posed a number of questions to the U.S. Administration for it to reaffirm its stance on a number of the main issues of the peace process, urging it once again to meet the promises and commitments that it made on the eve of our participation in the ninth round and that it has yet to fulfil. All those issues, which will become clearer in the coming days through the American stance and behavior during the next stage, will leave their effective fingerprint [al-basamat al-mu'athirah] on the peace process as a whole and thereby on the future of the entire region, which will be thrown into an abyss of instability, confusion, and crises that no one can foresee, understand, or control.

In concluding his address, brother President Abu-'Ammar affirmed that our people will not kneel down as long there is a baby among us. We have been suppressing our cries despite the bitter situation that has been imposed upon us by a number of brothers, but we have refused to sell out our principles. This reflects the nobleness of our people and the sincerity of our commitments. It also reflects our ability for endurance, which has gone beyond all expectations, and the need for more social and fraternal solidarity in order to overcome these difficult days and keep our heads high.

DFLP: 10th-Round Participation Lacks Legitimacy

JN1306162093 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Tunis, 13 Jun (INA)—The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] affirmed that Palestinian participation in the 10th round of peace talks with the Zionist entity was not endorsed by any legitimate PLO body.

In a press statement here last night, a spokesman for the DFLP Central Information Department said that the PLO Executive Committee members who recently met in Amman have not adopted any decision endorsing participation in the 10th round of peace talks. Most PLO factions, the spokesman added, called for boycotting this round of talks.

The DFLP spokesman noted that the announcement regarding participation in the 10th round of talks made by Faysal al-Husayni expresses personal views only. Consequently, the spokesman maintained, participation in this round of talks would be devoid of Palestinian legitimacy.

The spokesman urged the Palestinian negotiating team to halt its persistence with divisive policies, suspend the negotiations, and start a comprehensive national dialogue to restore the unity of the PLO.

PFP Confirms Nonparticipation in 10th Round

JN1806112193 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 13 Jun 93 p 25

[By Tawfiq al-'Abid]

[Excerpts] Dr. Taysir 'Aruri, member of the Palestinian peace delegation, said that the Palestinian People's Party will not take part in the 10th round of negotiations with Israel, which are due to start in Washington on 15 June.

Dr. 'Aruri told AL-DUSTUR: The reasons we suspended our participation in the previous round are not only still valid, but new ones have been added to them, the foremost being the continued closure of Jerusalem by the Israeli occupation authorities, thereby practically placing it outside the framework of negotiations. [passage omitted]

Dr. 'Aruri said: The mission of the delegation led by Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi in Washington is to attempt to explore the U.S. position and the extent of Washington's commitment to the letter of assurances and its readiness to make the Israelis abide by the terms of reference. He said this delegation will discuss with U.S. officials the memorandum presented by the Palestinians on 22 May, which included a number of questions on the U.S. promises and assurances and on the point of reference. [passage omitted]

Regarding Dr. Ghassan al-Khatib's participation in the Palestinian delegation currently in Washington and his meeting with U.S. State Department officials, Dr. 'Aruri said: We took part in drafting the memorandum, so it is natural for us to take part in the meetings with the Americans on this memorandum. He said, however, that the representative of the Palestinian People's Party will not take part in the 10th round of negotiations.

He said that this is the only reason for Ghassan al-Khatib's visit to Washington and that there is no change in the party's stand toward the negotiations.

It is worth noting that the Palestinian People's Party has two representatives on the negotiating team: Dr. Samir 'Abdallah and Ghassan al-Khatib.

Al-Husayni Discusses Future State, Gaza First

JN1006110093 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 8 Jun 93 p 9

[Interview with Faysal al-Husayni, head of the advisory council for the Palestinian delegation to the Arab-Israeli talks, by Jamal al-Majaydah; place and date not given]

[Text] [Al-Majaydah] Arab and international officials have recently said that there is a plan to settle the Palestinians in Lebanon and other Arab states—especially those who have been residing there since 1948—as part of a political solution to the Palestinian problem.

[Al-Husayni] In fact, I have no information or details on this subject. Lebanon cannot settle the Palestinians who have been residing there since 1948 in order to preserve the demographic structure in Lebanon and the Palestinian identity. I think the two sides have a very understanding about the danger of such a settlement. All I know is that there is a plan to calculate the number of the Palestinians in Lebanon and not to settle them. The official Palestinian presence in Lebanon began in the early 1970's. Aspects of this presence changed in the 1980's. There are Palestinians in Lebanon who arrived in the 1970's, and there are others who came in 1948. It is necessary to ascertain the number of Palestinians and the nature of their presence. I think that is what is being done now. I do not know what will happen after this has been done. Frankly speaking, the issue of settling the Palestinians in Lebanon or in any Arab country has not been discussed with Lebanese, Arab, or international officials because the only place for the Palestinians is the independent Palestinian state.

[Al-Majaydah] Does the United States understand this fact well enough?

[Al-Husayni] The Americans know very well the Palestinian position on the rights of the Palestinians who left their homes after 1967, and there is an understanding on the need to return these to their homes in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

As for the Palestinians who left in 1948, Resolution 194 will be applied to them, namely, their return or their compensation. Between their return and their compensation, there are other solutions.

[Al-Majaydah] The issue concerning the transitional phase in the occupied territory is not yet clear. We do not know how long it will take.

[Al-Husayni] If we stick to the texts, the transitional phase should begin within a year from the beginning of the negotiations. Discussion of a final solution will begin by the beginning of the third year. This solution must be made available before the end of the fifth year. One-and-a-half years have elapsed since the beginning of the negotiations in Madrid, and the transitional period should have started six month ago. Therefore, it is our demand that six months be deducted from the five-year period fixed for reaching a final solution.

[Al-Majaydah] This means that by 1998, there will be a new Palestinian reality?

[Al-Husayni] Certainly there will be a tangible reality for a Palestinian state in the territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

[Al-Majaydah] In your capacity as head of the Palestinian team to the peace talks, can you explain what happened concerning the Palestinian committees that will take over Palestinian authority if this becomes

reality, especially the water committee and its ability to stop Israel from stealing potable water resources in the West Bank and Gaza?

[Al-Husayni] In the multilateral talks, we have tried to discuss the issue of Israel stealing water, but the Israelis are refusing to consider this issue seriously and say that it should be discussed in the bilateral talks. The Palestinian side has not retreated from its demands. The battle over water rights continues.

[Al-Majayidah] Did some Arab Gulf states resume financial aid to the PLO or to Palestinian national institutions in the occupied territories in light of a detente in relations?

[Al-Husayni] Saudi Arabia is regularly transferring money that is deducted from the salaries of Palestinian workers there to the PLO. The rest of the Gulf states are doing the same. One aspect of our current tour is to reinforce cooperation and clear Arab differences in response to an invitation by His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates. We believe that clearing the Arab atmosphere will lead to healing wounds and cooperating in a serious manner to build an Arab future based on trust. We hope that we will find a new Arab formula that will prepare the Middle East for a new stage.

[Al-Majayidah] Some say that the Palestinian state, if it is established, will be without a basic infrastructure because it collapsed during the past 24 years of occupation. What are the features of your plan for the next stage?

[Al-Husayni] We have begun the battle to reconstruct the infrastructure in the West bank and Gaza Strip so that it will meet the requirments of a modern state. Hence, we need Arab and international support because we will be starting from zero. We have begun extensive contacts with Saudi Arabia and many Arab and international circles concerning the requirements of a future Palestinian state.

[Al-Majayidah] Has the Jerusalem issue been decided in the past nine rounds of negotiations or was all that happened mere maneuvers?

[Al-Husayni] We might be able to regain the West Bank and Gaza Strip through negotiations. However, Jerusalem will only be regained by imposing a fait accompli, because the occupation seeks to transform it from an Arab city to an Israeli city geographically and demographically and in form and substance. We insist on maintaining the Arab character of the city. We have now entered a real battle concerning Jerusalem. We have begun to expand our institutions and develop the Palestinian presence inside Jerusalem by establishing the bases for economy, education, and services that would make Jerusalem an Arab city and strengthen bonds between the West Bank and Gaza Strip. If we do not do this, then our presence in Jerusalem will be threatened, just like the Alhambra Palace [in Granada, Spain]. We visit it and cry over its remains. We admire our past and cry over our present and future. This is a very necessary role that we should start playing. On the political level, we were able to impose a fait accompli on the Jerusalem issue. We now consider Jerusalem as the capital of the Palestinian state. Western and European circles and even the Israelis are beginning to understand that the Palestinians will make Jerusalem the capital of their future state. This Palestinian insistence on the Arabism of Jerusalem should be economically and financially supported in order for it to achieve its objectives. I assure you that without Jerusalem there will be no solution and without the return of Jerusalem there will be no peace agreement. if we lose Jerusalem, we will lose the present and the future.

[Al-Majayidah] A few days ago, Rabin said Israel believes there is no link between the West Bank and Gaza Strip and that he is considering withdrawing from the Gaza Strip and handing it over to the Palestinians. Don't you think that this is an attempt by the enemy prime minister to divide Palestinian ranks?

[Al-Husayni] There is an agreement on a specific timetable. This means that Israel may withdraw from certain areas and stay in others. I have a question: Why should there be a withdrawal from the Gaza Strip when there are other areas in the West Bank that are ripe for withdrawal, and why this insistence on Gaza First? I think it is clear that there are Israeli attempts to partition the solution. This runs contrary to our national interests, and, consequently, we must reject it. It also runs against the interest of the peace process.

[Al-Majayidah] But PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has welcomed any Israeli plan to withdraw from the Gaza Strip?

[Al-Husayni] Brother Yasir 'Arafat's welcoming was based on the following position: If that withdrawal is done within a timetable or within the framework of an integrated working program that includes parts of the West Bank as well as Gaza, then that is acceptable to us, provided that withdrawal from the occupied territories is completed in stages. We reject withdrawal from Gaza and then waiting to see what will happen to the West Bank later.

[Al-Majayidah] Will this point concerning the Israeli withdrawal be included in the declaration of principles that you will discuss next week in Washington?

[Al-Husayni] In fact, the declaration of principles does not touch on this point. It concentrates on the peace process and particularly the complete withdrawal from all occupied territories, without specification.

[Al-Majayidah] Can one say that the issue of withdrawal, which is being raised now, is the reason for the differences between you and Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi?

[Al-Husayni] There are absolutely no differences between me and Dr. Haydar. The media has fabricated

these differences, and we have issued a joint statement some time ago. What happened was that Dr. Haydar has urged an emergency meeting for the PLO Central Council to reassess the negotiations process and see whether or not an authorization to continue the negotiations can be obtained. We see that the Palestinian national institutions should meet to conduct such an assessment. Therefore, Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi has the right to ask for such a meeting and to demand and propose the suspension of negotiations or even withdrawal from negotiations. But the decision to withdraw from the negotiations is a prerogative of the Palestinian leadership. This was what I said to Dr. Haydar. I was asked by an international news agency if Dr. Haydar's statements mean there will be no 10th round of negotiations, and I said the 10th round will convene because the decision is not made by an individual, but by the Palestinian leadership.

[Al-Majayidah] What do you expect from the 10th round of peace talks and is there a specific date?

[Al-Husayni] There is now a U.S. invitation to the 10th round, and it seems it is an invitation to attend a round before the end of this month. We believe that that round should be preceded by consultations between the United States and the parties concerned to try to draw up a working program for the 10th round and a declaration of principles.

Reviews 9th Round of Talks

JN1306165593 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1925 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Interview with Faysal al-Husayni, head of the advisory council for the Palestinian delegation to the Arab-Israeli talks, by Muhammad al-Sharif, carried within the "Encounter" program; date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Al-Sharif] We noticed that at the end of the ninth round of the peace negotiations, you rejected the ideas that the U.S. sponsor put forth for a declaration of principles, ideas that were submitted in response to the declaration or the draft declaration submitted by the Israelis. Why this Palestinian rejection of the U.S. ideas?

[Al-Husayni] We submitted a declaration of principles. Israel also submitted a declaration of principles. The Americans submitted a joint memorandum reflecting a certain moment and a certain stage through which we were passing. It was not a declaration of principles. The memorandum that was submitted by the Americans reflected more the Israeli terminology, rather than an American or a Palestinian terminology. For this reason, we rejected this memorandum and told the Americans that if they want a joint memorandum, they should take into consideration the terms of reference of the peace process and not the Israeli version of these terms of reference, or any other version.

[Al-Sharif] Mr. al-Husayni, we are still discussing general frameworks. Can we be more specific when speaking about the ideas that were submitted, whether through the Israeli, or Palestinian draft declaration, or the U.S. memorandum?

[Al-Husayni] The Israeli and Palestinian draft declarations deal with the interim period and the understanding each of us has of this stage. As Palestinians, we understand the interim period as a stage during which power will be transferred from the Israelis to the Palestinians in preparation for the establishment of Palestinian self-rule. This government will initiate negotiations for a definitive solution, which we want to be a state. Thus we are being very careful that the declaration of principles and the concept of this interim period be a basis from which we can proceed toward an independent Palestinian state. As for the Israelis, they want this interim period and the declaration of principles to be based on foundations that in the future will never lead to the establishment of a Palestinian state. This is the basis of our disagreement with them. We submitted our project in a cohesive manner in terms of the land and its territorial integrity, the legislative process, the link between man and the land, and that there can be no sovereign Israeli areas in the occupied territories because these territories are occupied as mentioned in Resolution 242. They are not disputed territories. The Israeli stand came to reverse this concept or to give some of its points different or ambiguous interpretations.

[Al-Sharif] What stand did the U.S. sponsor adopt toward the contents of the declaration?

[Al-Husayni] The U.S. sponsor wanted to mention some points over which we and the Israelis do not disagree. However, the United States used Israeli terminology. This terminology is more ambiguous and will cause more disagreement in the future.

[Al-Sharif] Let us remain within this framework. The U.S. sponsor intervened outside the conference room. Do you have any specific visualization of how the U.S. sponsor can intervene to achieve better results during the negotiations?

[Al-Husayni] We want the U.S. sponsor to be the arbiter with respect to the terms of reference of the process of negotiations. Resolution 242 has a specific meaning. We do not accept any bargaining on this. There is a specific understanding on the status of the occupied territories. We refuse to bargain on this too. What we want from the United States, especially at this stage, is to commit the two parties to respect the terms of reference of the peace process, to respect Resolutions 242 and 338, the letter of assurances, and the letter of invitation. All these emphasize that this process of negotiations starts with the stage of transferring power and ends with a definitive solution that would give the Palestinians the capability to protect themselves and to decide their fate. These are part of the terms of reference of the peace process.

[Al-Sharif] The ninth round of bilateral talks was assessed differently by the Israelis, the Arabs, and the Americans. Would it be fair to characterize the ninth round as a failure?

[Al-Husayni] It may be said that the ninth round was the first negotiating round; the previous rounds addressed form—for instance, whether there should be a separate Palestinian track or one in conjunction with Jordan. This issue was settled in the first round of the negotiating process. After that, we embarked on another period that amounted to a kind of contest where we and the Israelis rejected each other's plans summarily. We were far apart, and spoke two different languages. The ninth round saw the Israelis speaking a new language. This prompted us to form working groups. They brought up some interesting points. This is not to say they began using satisfactory language, but it certainly was a new language. For instance, they ceased to use the expression Judaea and Samaria; instead, they began saying the territories. They stopped referring to them as being disparate chunks of territory. They began talking about an integral homogeneous body that may incorporate certain particularities....

[Al-Sharif, interrrupting] The settlements?

[Al-Husayni] For example, the settlements. They used to say that Israel must be in control of the Jewish villages and towns in the territories....

[Al-Sharif, interrupting] Using this expression?

[Al-Husayni] Exactly. Now they are talking about Israel's control over the Israeli citizens in the territories. They are now talking about the population rather than the territory. They used to tell us that during the self-rule period we would have no right to legislate. Now, however, they say that we will have this right, but under certain supervision. Take the elections. They formerly said that no outside power would be allowed to intervene, since as a democracy, Israel would ensure democratic elections. Now, we are talking about supervision of the vote, while they talk about these elections being monitored....

[Al-Sharif, interrupting] The Israeli prime minister said as much recently.

[Al-Husayni] That's right. What is being discussed now, though, is more like supervision than monitoring, and it is a step in the right direction. On that score, then, there has been some movement by Israel. Admittedly, sometimes, what they gave with their left hand they took back with their right. In the end, however, they did give something. Once my right to legislate is recognized, I will go on to talk about whether there would be supervision or not. Once our right to legislate is settled, we will move on to the question of overseeing the elections. That is our argument. Our position is that they have no right to oversee the vote.

[Al-Sharif] What about the Jerusalem issue? Jerusalem was represented in the ninth round for the first time....

[Al-Husayni, interrupting] That was one of the sticking points from the beginning. You know that at first the PLO was kept out of the picture, and relegated to a place behind a thick screen. But the PLO gradually came into the picture and proved that it was directing the negotiating process. Indeed, the PLO led the negotiating process from the start from behind the scenes. Now, however, the PLO is directing the peace process openly. Formerly, the Israelis insisted on excluding Palestinians in exile from the negotiations. Now, Palestinians from exile are leading the bilateral negotiations. The Israelis formerly insisted on excluding Palestinians from Jerusalem, and now they are at the helm of the negotiations in the bilateral track. And in the working groups, there are now Palestinians who were in exile.

Therefore, these Israeli conditions are being eliminated. However, the most important achievements in the last stage—we do not claim they are [word indistinct] achievements—consist of the change in the strategic Israeli stand. With Shamir's downfall, the ideological Torah strategy that God has promised this land to Israel and, therefore, one cannot discuss it, also collapsed. Rabin came and spoke about his need for the land for security reasons. We can now discuss this situation with him, and we can prove to Rabin that he does not need this land for security reasons. Therefore, the peace negotiations have now entered a serious, but difficult stage.

Here, I would like to say the following: No nation in this world has won victory only at the negotiating table. Also, all nations have resorted to the negotiating table to settle their struggles in the field. We are passing through a stage that is between the stage of field struggle and the political negotiations. In this stage, Israel will try to exploit the situation in the field to bring pressure to bear on us during the negotiations. We will not allow this, and Israel will be mistaken if it believes it will be able to achieve this. During the past rounds, we have proved to it that we will not give in to any blackmail in the field. There are political objectives that should be attained, and we should be allowed to establish our Palestinian state. This is something about which there can be no concession.

[Al-Sharif] Mr. al-Husayni, with respect to the interim period and the elections that will precede it, you have said the Israelis have submitted a specific visualization on the question of supervision over the elections. How do the Palestinians envisage the preparatory operations before the interim period?

[Al-Husayni] The elections should be held in a manner that will satisfy the Palestinian voter and enable him to vote in a free manner. To hold the elections only under Israeli supervision is completely unacceptable. We are here. We should participate in organizing this operation. We also need the cosponsors to be there. We need the international community to be there to guarantee that

these elections are held in a free, sound, and democratic manner. It is not only Rabin's wishes that should be realized. Rabin might propose, might put forth an opinion. But, at the end, he is not the only one to define the results of these negotiations.

[Al-Sharif] Concerning the issue of Jerusalem, the Israelis, through their statements, say the inhabitants of Jerusalem might participate in the elections, but they cannot run in elections. Do you believe this obstacle can be overcome?

[Al-Husayni] Of course. Concerning the elections, there is nothing that states a group can vote but cannot run in elections. They used to refuse to allow the sons of Jerusalem to participate in the negotiations. Now, they refuse to allow the sons of Jerusalem to run in elections. But, ultimately, in the same manner that Jerusalem joined the negotiations, the sons of Jerusalem will have the right to run in the elections. [passage omitted]

[Al-Sharif] My last question is about the peace process in general. The Madrid conference was held some 20 months ago. Do you feel that after this period there is a possibility of concluding specific agreements. Do you have concrete facts to substantiate such a possibility?

[Al-Husayni] Yes, I believe we are coming closer to this possibility. We have started discussion of a declaration of principles. The United States is now willing to play a broader role. There has been a change in the PLO's status on the Arab and international level. You know that the PLO was boycotted by Europe in wake of the Gulf war. But now Brother Yasir 'Arafat has been officially received by Austria, Brussels, France, and the United Kingdom has restored relations with us. Thus, the PLO's status has greatly improved. On the Arab level, we now tour the region as a PLO delegation. A delegation headed by Abu-Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas] and with myself and brother Sa'id Kamal as members toured the Gulf region as a PLO delegation. The regaining of the PLO's status on the international level is one of the factors of strength that we believe will contribute to the attainment of a solution to the interim period. If Israel respects the terms of reference of the peace process, and if the United States plays its role in this respect, I believe that the interim period could begin before the beginning of next year.

[Al-Sharif] Thank you.

Delegate on 10th-Round Expectations, Concessions

JN1306205493 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Arabic 1430 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Telephone interview with Furayh Abu-Middayn, Palestinian delegate to Washington peace talks, by Jamil Khaz'al; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Khaz'al] What do you think distinguishes the 10th round from the earlier rounds?

[Abu-Middayn] I daresay that this round will be America's show more than an affair involving Israel and the Palestinians. Hence the importance of the 10th round. The full partner and the full sponsor term have not stood up to the test in the previous rounds. The usefulness of the United States as a full partner and its direct intervention to bridge the Palestinian and Israeli positions will be put to the test in the coming round.

[Khaz'al] Interestingly, the focus now is on the declaration of principles.

[Abu-Middayn] Certainly the declaration of principles is vital. The Palestinians very much want the declaration of principles so that it may clear up ambiguities in the entire peace process. The Palestinians cannot move a step foward or come up with any details in the absence of a point of reference represented in the declaration of principles. A declaration of principles will establish a link between the interim and permanent status; it will be a type of liaison between the interim and permanent status, and between the provisional self-rule and the permanent government. There lies the importance of the declaration of principles. Formerly, we would not agree to sign any joint statements, but we will agree with a declaration of principles dealing with the central issue of how to link the two stages.

[Khaz'al] The declaration of principles, I think, requires legal studies and knowhow. For this reason, as doyen of the association of lawyers in the Gaza strip you will join this round.

[Abu-Middayn] It is a legal issue first and foremost, then a political issue. We have been preceded to Washington by a team of legal experts from the diaspora—from England, and Dr. al-Qasim, who is, I believe, from the United States. I think we have an excellent team. We hope that the 10th round will prove more fruitful than the previous rounds.

[Khaz'al] What do you think will follow the declaration of principles, if that comes to pass?

[Abu-Middayn] After the declaration of principles, we will define the general framework for a settlement. Then will come the role of legal and other experts including specialists on water, land, police, health, and other areas. Things will then get going to fill this framework with all the details required by a comprehensive agreement.

[Khaz'al] News reports speak about a state of mutual disappointment between the Americans and the Palestinians.

[Abu-Middayn] What we hear in public is not necessarily the case. What takes place behind the scenes is more important. The Palestinians have been demanding that the American position be clear. The Americans say ambiguities in diplomacy may lead to a final settlement. However, the contrast between the Israeli stand on the Syrian track and its stand on the Palestinian track leads the Palestinians to tread very carefully in the negotiating

process. The Israelis want Syria to spell out the shape of peace in 10, 20, or even 50 years, but, in the meantime, they refuse to explain what they mean by peace with the Palestinians in a year, two years, or three years. Why should Syria be expected to be 100 percent clear with Israel, while Israel refuses to be 50 percent clear with the Palestinians? That is the crucial question. The Americans, as sponsors of the conference, should, therefore, dispel apprehensions by being absolutely clear. You know that the peace initiative is American and that it was borne of the Gulf War and the collapse of the Soviet Union. The United States must provide credibility. I hope this frustration will evaporate and that not before too long, the gap between the two sides will be bridged. Maybe things will get clearer in the coming days.

[Khaz'al] On the eve of every round, it is said this one is going to be a decisive one. Do you think this description applies to the 10th round?

[Abu-Middayn] We never expected rounds three to eight to be decisive. These rounds coincided with elections in Israel and the United States. Nobody ever expected enything decisive to come out of them. However, the ninth and 10th rounds are unique. The United States intervened only at the 11th hour of the ninth round, and now it is stepping in four or five days before the 10th round is due to begin. Rubenstein, the head of the Israeli delegation, is already there, and the Palestinian delegation led by Haydr 'Abd-al-Shafi is also in Washington. The focus now is on the substance. The first rounds addressed form rather than substance.

[Khaz'al] We wish you good luck, and thank you.

[Abu-Middayn] Thank you.

Australian Decision on Representative Welcomed

LD1106201493 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] The Australian Government has decided to appoint a representative for the Palestine Liberation Organization from Tunisia and to ask a high-level PLO delegation to visit Australia. This was announced by Australia's foreign affairs minister in an official statement. He said these decisions have been made at an important juncture in the Middle East peace process because there is a need for moderation and flexibility from all sides in order to achieve a breakthrough in negotiations.

The head of the organization's office in Canberra welcomed the decision, saying that this decision came late and that it was expected that Australia would upgrade its relations with the PLO to the status of general legation, as the case is in many European countries, if not full recognition of the state of Palestine, as is the case in more than 120 countries.

In Tunis, brother Abu-Ja'far ['Abd al-Latif Abu-Hiljah], director general of the PLO political department, welcomed this decision, considering it an advanced step that will lead to the strengthening of relations between the PLO and the Australian Government.

PNC Speaker al-Sa'ih Withdraws Resignation

NC1306112793 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1029 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Tunis, 13 Jun (MENA)—The Tunisian newspaper AL-SHURUQ disclosed today that Palestine National Council [PNC] Speaker Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Sa'ih informed Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat during their recent meeting in Amman that he withdrew the resignation he had tendered two weeks ago.

Citing Palestinian and diplomatic sources, the paper said that Shaykh al-Sa'ih assured 'Arafat that health and not political reasons were the cause of his resignation. 'Arafat told al-Sa'ih that he should continue his medical treatments abroad.

The sources expected al-Sa'ih would officially announce his decision and return to his post after his health improves.

PLO Stops Funds to 63 Institutions in Territories

TA1406101093 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 14 Jun 93 p 3

[Report by Yoram Binur]

[Text] The PLO has completely cut off funding to 63 of its institutions and offices in the territories.

Sources close to the PLO organization in the West Bank reported that these were mainly media agencies and public relations offices, mostly opened during the intifadah. The sources added that there would be cutbacks in various services provided to PLO activists, including free health insurance for journalists employed in media agencies affiliated with the PLO.

Over the past few months, the PLO has curtailed support for its activists in the territories by 85 percent due to financial constraints. In the past, annual funding stood at approximately 7 million Jordanian dinars (approximately 28 million shekels) that were distributed among PLO institutions and the families of injured, killed, or incarcerated Palestinians. Today, only 700,000 dinars reach the territories per year.

'Text' of ALF Statement on Kuwaiti Death Sentences

JN1406075493 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2050 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Tunis, 13 Jun (INA)—The Arab Liberation Front [ALF] has condemned the rulers imposed on Kuwait for

their crimes against the sons of the Palestinian people, the latest of which was the death sentence they passed against 10 Palestinians.

In a statement issued in Tunis today, the ALF called on the Arab nation and its national, progressive forces to unite against the conspiratorial schemes that are aimed at undermining this nation's rights and weakening its stands. The following is the text of the statement:

Within the framework of its war against our Palestinian people and their national cause, the al-Sabah clique has escalated its savage terrorist practices by sentencing 10 Palestinians to death, thus expressing a determination to pursue the course of agentry and to persecute the patriotic and honorable sons of our nation. This clique has been adopting this policy since the Atlantic invasion forces regained control of the Kuwait region and protected it with American, Western, and imperialist forces.

Passing these unfair sentences at a time when Zionist persecution of our people in the occupied homeland is escalating and the attempts to liquidate our cause and legalize the Zionist usurpation of our land are intensifying reveal the connection between the links of the plot and its tools, which are manipulated by the American imperialism through its tools and agent Arab rulers. These sentences coincided with an escalation in the American-Zionist enmity, retaliation, and siege against Iraq. This proves that the forces of evil and their tools are determined to continue to target the Arab revolution movement forces, represented by great Iraq and unique leader mujahid President Saddam Husayn and by our Palestinian people's intifadah and revolution. The aim is to liquidate our crucial issues, subjugate our nation, and control its wealth and destiny.

The rulers imposed on Kuwait have revealed the nature of their conspiratorial role against the Arab cause, particularly the Palestine question, through their repressive and terrorist practices against the Palestinians in Kuwait. These practices, which took the form of arrest campaigns, haphazard deportation of hundreds of thousands, physical liquidation, and savage torture, were denounced by all honorable people and world humanitarian organizations.

In contrast, these rulers opened the doors for the American and Zionist invaders and turned the Arab territory into a center for spying and aggression against our Arab nation, as well as a foothold for all those who covet our land and wealth. They acted in a manner that proved their agentry and suspect links. The latest of their actions was the lifting of the boycott imposed on the Zionist entity and the companies that deal with it.

What the al-Sabah family is carrying out is only a link in the scheme of aggression against the nation. This is obvious by the provocative attempts to maintain the unjust embargo against the Iraqi people, by the American aggression against the Somali people, and by the onslaught against our Palestinian people and their cause.

We in the ALF strongly condemn these sentences and hold the al-Sabah family responsible for all the crimes committed against our Palestinian people. We call on the sons of these people to unite against all those who dare to attack them and their cause, undermine their rights, or tamper with their lives. We also call on the PLO, the sole representative of our people, to shoulder its responsibilities and to quickly put an end to these practices.

We also call on the masses of our Arab nation and their national and progressive forces, popular unions, and professional organizations to voice their condemnation of this crime and to act swiftly to prevent it by moving on all popular levels to condemn the Kuwaiti rulers' behavior and expose their practices and links. We urge the concerned international organizations and bodies to shoulder their responsibilities and, based on their commitment to human rights, condemn the practices of the al-Sabah family and take them to task for their crimes.

Our people have gained experience in challenging hardships and triumphing over massacres and annihilation campaigns against their existence and national identity. By escalating their struggle and developing their valiant intifadah, these people are resisting all attempts targeting their existence on their land and in their homeland. As usual, our great people's mill grinds slow but sure. They will certainly punish the agents. It is a revolution until liberation.

OPEC Affairs

Oil Ministers Ratify OPEC Production Agreement

LD1106155093 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1430 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] The 93d meeting of the OPEC oil ministers ratified the present production ceiling of that organization for the third quarter of 1993. According to Central News Unit's report, because Kuwait had sought an increase in its quota, it did not accept and sign the agreement reached in the session.

At the end of the OPEC's session, Mr. Aqazadeh, our country's oil minister, talked to our correspondent and announced: The OPEC has set the production ceiling for the 3d quarter of this year to remain at 23,582,000 barrels per day.

According to this report, Mr. Aqazadeh commented on the reason behind Kuwait's opposition to the agreement. He said: During the present session, Kuwait was asking for an increase of its quota to 2,165,000 barrels per day, insisting that its quota should be equal to that of the United Arab Emirates. This request was not accepted by the other member countries. Consequently, the final agreement of the session was signed without Kuwait's agreement.

Kuwait's al-Baghli on Dispute Over Production

LD1206195293 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1658 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Geneva (12 June) KUNA—Kuwaiti Oil Minister 'Ali Ahmad al-Baghli has predicted today that the oil market will absorb an increase in the Kuwaiti production in the third quarter of the current year on condition that the other members of OPEC abide by their quotas.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti news agency KUNA, he said, "I think that the few barrels I will add would have a negative effect on the market only if the others, who opposed allowing OPEC to fulfill its pledge to Kuwait, violated the agreement they reached at their last meeting."

Al-Baghli stressed that "the protection of prices is the responsibility of all members of OPEC, and the burden should not be carried by only one member." He noted that "those who violate their quotas are the ones who constitute a danger to the market, not Kuwait."

After three days of meetings, which concluded last Thursday [10 June], the members of the organization, except Kuwait and Iraq, agreed to keep the production ceiling that was decided for the second quarter of the current year—namely 23.582 million barrels per day [bpd].

Kuwait was offered a 10 percent increase in its 1.6 million bpd quota but rejected it.

Al-Baghli said: "We are not party to that agreement because they reneged on their promise. There was an agreement last February whereby Kuwait reduced its production to 1.6 million bpd."

He added: "We reduced our production by 400,000 bpd, which is 20 percent, while others reduced their production by 5 percent at the most."

Kuwait had insisted at the last OPEC meeting that the organization carry out its promise to increase its quota in line with countries of similar oil output, traditional market quotas, and the quota system.

The Kuwait minister clarified that his country, in line with the February agreement, had asked for a 2.16 million bpd output, but—and this is proof of its flexibility—it declared that it accepted a 1 million bpd quota for the third quarter.

"We have shown some flexibility, but they have not shown any desire to find a solution to the situation, and they were not serious enough," he said.

Minister al-Baghli said that his counterparts in the organization have not left any chance for the negotiations. He further said "we have put clear conditions and have been ready to show flexibility."

He added "I have been let down." He stressed, however, that Kuwait would behave in a "responsible" manner toward the market. He pointed out that Kuwait would monitor the market and gradually increase its production while making sure "not to harm the market."

Kuwait's production capacity will reach 2.4 million bpd by the end of the current month of June. This figure includes 200 thousand bpd from the region jointly shared with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Kuwait's production capacity will reach 2.5 million bpd by this September, which is the capacity Kuwait had before the Iraqi invasion.

Al-Baghli qualified the agreement reached last week as "incredible and unrealistic," pointing out the fact that some of the members of the organization exceeded their quotas during the second quarter despite the fixed production ceiling.

Al-Baghli referred to the efforts that are being made to restore the work of the oil industry. He explained that $10 billion had been spent, and there is still need for a further $5 billion.

He said: "The retreating Iraqi forces took with them all that could be taken. They destroyed anything that they could not take. That is why we have been rebuilding our country from scratch."

He said that there is still a need to make more efforts to reequip the Kuwaiti export installations, refineries, and storage tanks that had been destroyed by the Iraqi forces and also clear about 20 km of oil lakes.

He said that Kuwait's average output from 2 August 1990 until now has been about 700 bpd [as received]. "Therefore, I have all the justification to ask for bigger quota."

He went on to say that there is a growing feeling against OPEC in Kuwait—in the National Assembly, in the street, and in the free press.

However, he pointed out in response to a question that Kuwait was a founding member of OPEC and would like to play a constructive role in the organization. He demanded that "a kind of order" should prevail in OPEC and said that some reforms should be introduced to it.

The Kuwaiti minister stressed the importance of the organization. He said that without it, chaos would dominate the oil world and that, accordingly, OPEC was indispensable.

He indicated that if the organization did not respond to Kuwait's requests in the last quarter of this year, then Kuwait would behave in the same way it did at the last meeting.

The Kuwaiti minister expressed his opposition to the carbon tax that Western states propose to implement, saying: "We believe that imposing it is only to fill in the

gaps of the budget deficits of the United States, the European Community, and Japan."

He added that if people were serious about the carbon problem "they would have also imposed higher taxes on coal, for example."

He clarified that oil producers were also concerned about protecting the environment and were prepared to contribute to efforts aimed at reaching "clean energy."

In some European countries, al-Baghli said, oil reaches the consumer at $100 per barrel "while the producer gets only $15." Is that fair, he wondered.

The Kuwaiti minister spoke about future policies. He said that Kuwait is reconsidering its domestic and foreign investment plans and is currently focusing its efforts on rebuilding domestically.

He explained that Kuwait is currently undertaking an assessment of the damage caused by the Iraqi occupation to the oil installations and revenues and that a reparation request will be submitted to the international reparations committee in Geneva.

Answering a question, he said the readmission of Iraq to OPEC will lead to a "chaotic situation."

Mr. al-Baghli is scheduled to leave Geneva tomorrow on a working visit to Denmark, where Kuwait owns a refinery and large-scale operations. He will meet senior Danish officials.

Kuwait owns a refining capacity of 225,000 bpd in Europe, divided among three refineries—one in Naples, another in Rotterdam, and a third on the western coast of Denmark.

Source Denies Kuwaiti Intention To Leave OPEC

NC1406091893 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0831 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Kuwait, 14 Jun (MENA)—A responsible Kuwaiti source has denied reports that Kuwait intends to withdraw from OPEC. The source stressed that Kuwait, a founding member, is eager to maintain the organization's entity and power.

The source told a MENA correspondent in Kuwait that Kuwait rejected OPEC's recent decisions, because at the February meeting the member states promised to raise Kuwait's quota to 2 million barrels a day starting 1 July.

The source said Kuwait explained its position and difficult circumstances to member states, informing them there was a big deficit in the state's general budget and that oil exports were the only hope of solving the problem. The source said Kuwait basically depends on oil, and it is inconceivable that this source of income should be curbed like this while Kuwait is always asked to defend OPEC.

The source maintained that the Kuwaiti demand is fair because it puts Kuwait on the same level as countries that have the same amount of oil reserves and the same production levels, such as the United Arab Emirates, which was allocated a quota of 2.17 million barrels a day.

Algeria

Seven-Member Terrorist Group Apprehended

LD1306135993 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Security authorities in Taher Department, Jijel Province, have disbanded a terrorist group consisting of seven people. The group has been accused of possessing weapons without a license, trading and repairing military arms, and participating in various operations. Here are further details in this dispatch from correspondent Yazid Benhamouda.

[Benhamouda] The detained group consists of seven people. The security authorities in Taher Department were able to disband the group and arrest all the members on the basis of information received from the first accused in the case, who was caught in the act with an automatic pistol in his possession on the night of 5 June. [passage omitted]

Dialogue Between Parties, HSC Ends in 'Unanimity'

LD1106205293 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] The dialogue between the Higher State Council and the various parties and associations has ended in unanimity on the review of many issues of interest to the homeland and the citizen. Many suggestions were presented for the management of this transitional phase in a manner that guarantees the normal functioning of the state's establishments and secures the emergence of the society from this whirlpool.

Among these suggestions, which appeared to be important for the participants in the dialogue, are: the reconsideration of some of the aspects of the Constitution or the legal system in general. Here is Ismael [name indistinct] to explain this:

[Correspondent] Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. The current Constitution on which the people took part in a referendum in 1989 has several loopholes, as political events showed. Hence, the request by the parties and associations that participated in the dialogue to review some aspects of thie Constitution. But they were unanimous in pointing out that the review should not be given priority at the current stage that the country is going through.

The drafting of a new Constitution is not an easy process; it should not be done in haste. Therefore it can be completed at the end of the transitional phase. If this review becomes urgent in this current phase, then it should deal only with the constitutional technical issues, including Article 40 that relates to the parties, and the balance between the three authorities—the executive, legislative, and judicial—in a manner that guarantees the independence of each and every authority. The majority of the participants in the dialogue—parties and associations—asked for the discussion of the fundamental issues of Algerian society at the end of the transitional phase, such as democracy, freedom, and justice, as well as other suggestions.

These should be formulated in a complete Constitution that lives up to the expectations of the people for a long period.

Many other issues were submitted for discussion, including the opening of an extensive dialogue regarding the economic and social program. The dialogue is apt to come out with a unanimity regarding the economic strategy that should be followed. This phase should also be exploited for a real transfer to the market economy. In addition to these issues, many associations submitted issues relating to terrorism, justice, and education; this is what one can say so far about the dialogue between the Higher State Council and the parties.

Niger President Arrives in Algiers 12 Jun

LD1206131993 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] President Mahamane Ousmane of Niger arrived in Algeria this morning on a two-day official visit to our country, the first of its kind since he was elected president of Niger last April. Higher State Council Chairman Ali Kafi was present to welcome him at Houari Boumedienne airport.

During his stay in our country, Mahamane Ousmane will hold talks with senior officials, chief among which is Ali Kafi, on the existing relations between the two countries and means of bolstering them. They will also review issues of mutual interest. [passage omitted on brief biography of Ousmane and Niger background]

Holds Talks With Kafi

LD1306134393 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Excerpts] The first visit of its kind paid by the Niger president to our country comes in the framework of strengthening cooperation between Algeria and Niger. During the second day of his visit to Algeria, the Niger president held a tete-a-tete with Ali Kafi, chairman of the Higher State Council. Later the talks were expanded to include members of the two delegations. [passage omitted]

Niger President Mahamane Ousmane is due to hold a news conference at Houari Boumediene international airport before leaving Algeria this afternoon.

Joint Communique Issued

LD1306201693 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] After the Algerian-Niger talks, a press release was issued today, which says: At the invitation of Mr. Ali

Kafi, chairman of the Higher State Council, Mr. Mahamane Ousmane, president of the Republic of Niger led an important delegation on a friendship and working visit to Algeria on 12 and 13 June.

On this occasion, Mr. Ali Kafi first offered his warm fraternal congratulations to Mr. Mahamane Ousmane on the occasion of his election as president of the Republic of Niger, and then started discussions on bilateral relations and the scope for developing them, together with a number of issues of common interest at regional and international levels.

Concerning the question of northern Niger, President Mahamane Ousmane reiterated Niger's determination to arrive at a quick solution to this question. Mr. Ali Kafi assured the Niger president over Algeria's preparedness to offer its full support for finding a satisfying solution. The two presidents Ali Kafi and Mahamane Ousmane expressed their satisfaction at the ties of friendship, brotherhood and good-neighborliness which link the Algerian and Niger peoples, and reiterated their common determination to strengthen them.

In this context, the two presidents stressed the need to give a fresh impulse to bilateral cooperation through tangible measures that allow the exploitation of the possibilities available in the two countries, and on this occasion decided to convene the Algerian- Niger joint committee for economic, cultural and scientific cooperation. It has been decided on the other hand to reinvigorate consultations between local authorities in the border areas, and to start joint ventures to develop these areas.

The two presidents praised the climate of trust that marked the political consultations, and agreed to intensify contacts between the officials of the two countries so as to guarantee peace and stability in the region. Afterwards, Ali Kafi and Mahamane Ousmane touched upon regional and international issues.

Concerning the Western Sahara problem, the two presidents affirmed their support for the efforts of the UN secretary general and the OAU in order to arrive at a just solution through organizing a free and fair referendum in Western Sahara.

Concerning the situation in the African continent, the two presidents showed concern over the persistence of hotbeds of tension, and expressed their hope that the OAU's role be strengthened in settling African problems and guaranteeing peace and security in Africa, and they reaffirmed the attachment of Algeria and Niger to the principles of the organization based on respect and rejection of interference in the domestic affairs of member states.

The two presidents denounced the escalation of violence in South Africa, and voiced support for the current peace process for bringing about a democratic, non-racial society in this country. Touching upon the Middle East question, Ali Kafi and Mahamane Ousmane expressed their encouragement for the continuation of the peace negotiations, and stressed their support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people, led by the PLO, its sole legitimate representative.

At another level, the two presidents condemned ethnic cleansing in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and urged the United Nations and the international community to work for the ending of the tragedy endured by the Muslim people in this country.

The two presidents lauded the climate of brotherhood and understanding which prevailed during the talks. At the conclusion of his visit, the Niger president addressed his sincere thanks to President Ali Kafi for the warmth of the reception accorded to him and his delegation. He also extended an invitation to Mr. Ali Kafi to visit Niger.

Holds News Conference

LD1306212893 Algiers ENTV Television Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Before leaving Algeria this evening, the Niger president held a news conference in the VIP lounge at Houari Boumedienne International Airport. He spoke about the results of his visit. Here is a report by Zine el Abidine Bouachah:

[Bouachah, in French fading to Arabic translation] In assessing Algerian-Niger relations, Niger President Mahamane Ousmane expressed great satisfaction with all the issues reviewed by the two parties—issues concerning various aspects of bilateral relations. The talks basically focused on cultural and technological matters, the security of the border region between the two countries, and the movement of persons across these borders, as well as regional and African issues. Points of view on all these issues were identical, the visiting president stated.

On bilateral cooperation, the Niger president confirmed the revival of the joint committee on Algerian-Niger cooperation. He said the ground is ready for resuming the development of the various points recorded in the working program of the committee.

Concerning the Tuareg issue on the southern Algerian border, the Niger president declared that the solution of this issue undoubtedly calls for the participation of a fraternal and friendly country like Algeria. What affects Niger also affects Algeria, and vice versa, he said.

The Niger president was asked whether the free movement of persons between the two countries after the closure of the borders is guaranteed. He replied: Some parts of the borders were closed in the past for security reasons, but now there is no problem which warrants the continuing closure of the border. Therefore, the movement of persons is free and guaranteed.

Concludes Visit

LD1306175193 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Niger President Mahamane Ousmane left Algeria this afternoon after a two-day working and friendly visit during which he held talks with Mr. Ali Kafi, president of the Higher State Council, and with Mr. Redha Malek, member of the council and foreign minister. [passage omitted] At a news conference at Houari Boumedienne airport before leaving Algeria, the president of Niger reviewed the results of his visit and his talks with Algerian officials.

Egypt

Musa Holds News Conference on Peace, Iran, Sudan

NC1106154093 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1440 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 11 Jun (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa has stated that the foreign ministers of the states of the Damascus Declaration will meet in Abu Dhabi tomorrow to discuss security, political, and economic cooperation, as well as the overall Arab situation. At a news conference today, he said the foreign ministers will also discuss Lebanon's request to join the Declaration, whose members are Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, and Oman.

Musa expressed the hope that the meeting will arrive at an exemplary formula for cooperation among the Damascus Declaration states. He stressed that Gulf security is part of Arab security and explained that the Damascus Declaration is based on Arab documents and that there is no place for non-Arabs in the declaration.

Musa described the meeting of the foreign ministers of the states of the Damascus Declaration as important, saying there is a chance for progress. However, if no progress is made, the declaration will lose its credibility.

Musa said that while he is in Vienna for an international conference on human rights, he will meet with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev to discuss topics relating to the peace talks and the progress they have made thus far. He will also meet with Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres to discuss developments in the efforts to achieve peace. He added that he will also meet in Vienna with UN Secretary General Dr. Butrus Butrus-Ghali and with some African foreign ministers.

Musa said the peace talks have moved from a discussion of general issues to a discussion of substantive issues, exchanges of views, and proposals. Moreover, the United States has begun to play the role of a full partner in narrowing the differences between the Arab parties and Israel, especially between the Palestinians and Israel. Musa said there is a chance to arrive at some agreements during the 10th round of the peace talks.

Asked about the Egyptian contacts to ease the repressive Israeli measures in the occupied Arab territories, Musa said if Israel eases the repressive measures it will positively affect the general atmosphere in the occupied territories, which in turn will lead to a better atmosphere at the peace talks. He explained that Egypt demands that the conditions and treatment of the Palestinian people be improved to create the appropriate atmosphere to help the Palestinian and Israeli negotiators make progress in the talks.

Musa noted that the Bosnian problem was wrongly handled from the beginning. There was a lot of bias in favor of the Serbs, who committed murder, ethnic cleansing, and aggression. This represented an unbalanced approach to the problem. He added that despite the defects in the Vance-Owen plan, Egypt went along with it because it was the best offer.

Musa explained that Egypt pays attention to the problem of Bosnia-Herzegovina, which has grave implications for the stability of the Balkan region and consequently the Mediterranean region. He said that a double standard is being applied in handling the Bosnian problem, which badly undermines the new world order.

On the international conference on human rights in Vienna, Musa said the conference will discuss ethnic cleansing as a crime against humanity. He said Egypt believes the biggest stab to human rights is the ethnic cleansing process in Europe, particularly in Bosnia-Herzegovina. He said the conference must consider ethnic cleansing a war crime and a crime against humanity.

Musa affirmed the importance of Arab reconciliation because it is in the interests of all Arab countries. He added that President Mubarak has positively responded to Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid's initiative in this regard.

Asked whether an invitation will be sent to the Government of South Africa to attend the African summit conference in Cairo, Musa said an invitation to the conference does not depend on the host country. It is up to the summit to make a decision in this respect. However, this subject is not currently under discussion.

Musa affirmed the importance of strengthening Arab-African cooperation on all the government and popular levels. He denounced the killing of UN peacekeeping troops in Somalia and called for the punishment of the culprits. He said the question of who will represent Somalia at the African summit will be discussed at a preparatory meeting of the heads of state.

Regarding Egyptian-Sudanese relations, Musa reiterated that they do not need any mediation. He invited the Sudanese foreign minister to come to Cairo ahead of the meeting of the African foreign ministers to discuss all

topics between the two countries. He said the committee on Hala'ib can meet in Cairo to discuss aspects of the dispute between the two countries. He stressed that Egypt does not seek a confrontation with Sudan, which President Mubarak has stated several times. He praised the historic relations between the Egyptian and Sudanese peoples.

Musa stressed that Egypt does not call for Egyptian-Iranian enmity or Arab-Iranian enmity. It calls for relations of cooperation. There are historic relations between the two countries. He added that there is no mediation between Egypt and Iran, indicating that he has met more than once with the Iranian foreign minister. He said Egypt seeks peace, stability, and development for the region. It rejects any undermining of these principles. Any threat to any Arab country is considered a threat to the security of the Arab states. He demanded that all states, including Iran, clarify their intentions to ensure peace, stability, and development for the region.

Concluding his news conference, Musa expressed the hope that Iraq will emerge from its ordeal and that conditions will become opportune for its return to the Arab nation. It is unreasonable of us to seek strong and good relations with all states without seeking relations with Iraq.

Sudan Asks OAU To End Dispute Over Hala'ib

NC1206183893 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 8 Jun 93 p 1

[Report by 'Abd-al-Nabi 'Abd-al-Sattar]

[Text] Sudanese sources in Cairo have affirmed that the Sudanese Government has resorted to the OAU to intervene to end the Egyptian-Sudanese dispute over Hala'ib. The sources said Sudan previously submitted an official memorandum to the organization informing it of Egyptian measures in Hala'ib.

Somalia Attacks Said To Show UN Restoring Order

NC1406100193 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 0905 GMT 14 Jun 93

["News analysis" by Hasan Sharaf]

[Text] U.S. aircraft have attacked the headquarters of General Aidid south of the Somali capital of Mogadishu for the third day running. Today's attack is part of the United Nations' punitive campaign in Somalia to bring the country under UN control. The attack also implements Sunday's Security Council Resolution 827, which called for punishing those responsible for killing 23 Pakistani peacekeepers on 5 June.

The continuing air raids on General Aidid's positions show that the United Nations is proceeding with its objectives of disarming all Somalia and restoring stability and security to the country, which was destroyed by civil war. The UN military operation also aims to advance the peace process and national reconciliation and to neutralize the radio stations that incite the renewal of the civil war.

Today's attack, carried out so promptly following the killing and wounding of many Somali demonstrators by the Pakistani peacekeeping force, is a signal that the United Nations is not ready to halt its plan to restore law and order in Somalia under any circumstances.

Although tons of ammunition, tanks, guns, and other military hardware belonging to Aidid's forces were destroyed, UN officials admit that the general retains significant military power, which requires continuing these air attacks, in which 11 countries have been involved.

Arab Foreign Ministers Urged To Realize Iranian 'Schemes'

NC1206151093 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1140 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Ahmad al-Qasir commentary: "Egypt Between Gulf Security and Stability and Iranian Terrorist Plans"]

[Text] Daily, Arab Egypt demonstrates to Arab and other countries that it is the firm shield of the Arab world. It can never relinquish its historic pan-Arab responsibility to ward off the dangers facing the Arab brothers and firmly confront any aggression facing them, whatever the source of the aggression or the hardship involved. Egypt's stance during the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait proves this. By living up to its historic responsibility of safeguarding pan-Arab security, Egypt is simply doing its job without considering any consequences of this pan-Arab duty. Egypt believes its national security is inseparable from the security of the entire Arab nation and that any threat to Arab security is a direct threat to Egypt's security.

To be more specific, Egypt's recent position on warding off the Iranian expansionist threat to dominate the Gulf states and President Mubarak's warnings to the mullahs' regime in Iran after it seized the three Arab islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates have outraged the Iranian rulers, who use religion as a facade to serve their expansionist plans and the old Persian schemes of establishing a Persian empire dominating the Arab homeland. The Iranian rulers targeted Egypt as their main enemy and the primary obstacle to their plans and schemes in the Gulf as a prelude to controlling the entire Arab region. They resorted to exporting terrorism under the name of the Islamic revolution and recruiting agents, mercenaries, and hired hands to distract Egypt from forging ahead with its economic reform march for the welfare of the Egyptian people and future generations.

These facts had to be clarified before the meeting of the foreign ministers of the Damascus Declaration member states, which is due to open in Abu Dhabi today, so that the delegates would have a clear picture of the concept of

Gulf security and its close relations with collective pan-Arab security. These facts had to be highlighted so that everybody could see the huge difference between Egypt's position, caring for the Arab Gulf's security and stability, and Iran's terrorist schemes, which seek to shake stability and security in the entire Arab region. We hope the Gulf brothers are not deceived by the recent Iranian moves, demonstrated by Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati on a tour of the region's countries. He tried to improve the image of the fascist and terrorist regime after President Mubarak's recent Gulf tour exposed it with official documents.

Egypt has no ambitions in the Gulf region or elsewhere. It does not follow the policy of Arab alliances. Egypt's honorable and historic stance on the Palestinian issue, despite the negative campaigns it was subjected to and the heavy sacrifice it offered, is the best proof of what we are saying. The opposite is true, when it comes to the mullahs' regime in Iran, which, for years, has harbored ambitions to control the Gulf region and plunder its oil resources. The Damascus Declaration, signed by Egypt, Syria, and the six Gulf states, must be put into practice after so long or it will lose its credibility, as Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa declared in his news conference yesterday. He made it clear that unless progress is made to implement this agreement, it will lose all its credibility. He stressed that the Damascus Declaration has no room for non-Arabs and added that any talk about regional cooperation within the framework of international security is another story.

In light of the above, the foreign ministers meeting in Abu Dhabi today must face the issue of Gulf security and consequently, pan- Arab security, with realism, frankness, and objectivity or face the consequences soon in the form of a looming threat from Tehran's rulers. While emphasizing this point, Egypt declares it can confront the criminal and terrorist campaigns launched by the Tehran rulers and their agents in the Arab region, such as the hireling Sudanese regime. The Egyptian people can defend their achievements and confront anyone who tries to tamper with their security and stability. Egypt does not object to good neighborliness between the Iranian regime and the Gulf states, as long as Tehran's rulers' intentions are sincere and they give up their expansionist schemes to dominate the Gulf region. Will the foreign ministers of the Damascus Declaration states realize these facts so that their meeting today in Abu Dhabi can be a positive step toward safeguarding Gulf and pan-Arab security?

Musa Leaves for Damascus Declaration Meeting in UAE

NC1206112693 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1000 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa left Cairo for the United Arab Emirates [UAE] today to chair the Egyptian delegation to the meeting of the foreign ministers of the Damascus Declaration signatories. The meeting, due to begin in Abu Dhabi this evening, will assess the results of the previous meeting and discuss methods of political, economic, and security cooperation between the signatories. The conferees also will discuss Arab developments and some aspects of the Arab-Iranian relationship.

Musa will leave for Vienna tomorrow to chair the Egyptian delegation to the international human rights conference, which will begin on 14 June. Musa announced that foremost among the issues that this conference will discuss is that of the Serbian ethnic cleansing operations against the Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina. He described this as a war crime and a crime against humanity.

Four Americans, 1 New Zealander Expelled

NC1206152893 Paris AFP in English 1453 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 12 June (AFP)—Four Americans and a New Zealander have been expelled from Egypt after they were detained here for almost four months on charges of proselytizing, an Egyptian official said Saturday.

The five "were freed by the high state security court's prosecutor and flown back home Friday," the official said.

The prosecutor had charged the five with having tried to spread Christianity in Egypt, a mainly Muslim country, on behalf of an international organization. They were detained in late February.

The United States, which sees Egypt as its main Arab ally in the Middle East, reportedly intervened recently to end their detentions.

West Offers Help for Security on Israeli Border

NC1106180193 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 10 Jun 93 p 10

[Report by 'Abd-al-Nabi 'Abd-al-Sattar]

[Excerpts] Some Western countries, notably Germany, France, and Britain, have offered to provide Egypt with technical security assistance to help it combat growing terrorist acts. They informed Cairo of their readiness to train Egyptian security cadres on the most advanced ways to fight terrorism and violence and to discover and defuse bombs and explosive devices.

The Western countries had supplied Egypt with the most advanced equipment used at ports and airports to prevent smuggling weapons, explosives, gold, or money into the country. [passage omitted]

In another development, Egyptian authorities have taken strict security measures to protect essential establishments, banks, investment companies, embassies, churches, squares, and bridges against any new terrorist operations. Security along the border with Israel has also

been tightened to confront increasing infiltration by Palestinian Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] members into Egyptian territory to participate in terrorist schemes.

Minister on New Antiterror Strategy, Possible Dialogue

NC1106180293 Cairo AL-AHRAM WEEKLY in English 10-16 Jun 93 p 2

[Report on an interview with Interior Minister Hasan al-Alfi by Dina 'Izzat on 8 June, "two hours after the blast" at the Pyramids underpass, place not given]

[Text] "The explosion shows that the terrorists are desperate," said Interior Minister Hasan Al-Alfi. "What they are doing is saying that they still exist."

But like previous attacks on tourists, government officials and the public, Tuesday's blast is another attempt to undermine stability, frighten the people and weaken the national economy, al- Alfi said. "Some people may think that the most recent explosions reflect a new strategy by the terrorists but they only show how cowardly they are," the minister added.

Al-Alfi pledged that all terrorists will ultimately be brought to justice. "We are applying a new strategy now that has shown some good results," he said. The cornerstone of this strategy is to refrain from arbitrarily rounding up members of Islamist groups and focus instead on undercover, precautionary measures. "We try our hardest to keep an eye on every suspect without rushing to arrest him on flimsy charges," the minister said.

Asked whether the ministry's new strategy includes dialogue with experts on the ideology and tactics of the Islamist militants, al- Alfi said: "No harm has ever resulted from consultations." He added that dialogue should not be confined to intellectuals, but should also include former Interior Ministry officials experienced in ways of dealing with violence.

The conclusion of agreements with other governments for extraditing terrorists has not been finalised yet. "But we are working on it," the minister said. In the meantime, the exchange of information with countries concerned with the problem of terrorism is being intensified, he added.

But the most important form of cooperation, al-Alfi asserted, should be between the public and the Ministry of Interior. "These criminals are living among the people and it is the duty of every citizen to report any information they may have on any suspect," he said. Financial rewards are promised to those who come forward with information that could prove decisive.

"Complete confidentiality is guaranteed," al-Alfi said.

The more the people become aware of the problem, the more willing to help they are going to be. It is thus the role of the mass media, religious figures and educationalists to explain to the public the different aspects of the problem, al-Alfi said.

"We are doing our duty but individuals and organisations must also play their part," he said.

Sentences in al-Sharif Assassination Attempt Case Confirmed

NC1306062393 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 0335 GMT 13 Jun 93

[From the Press Review]

[Text] On the terrorists' trial, AL-AHRAM reports that the supreme military court's verdict in the case of the attempt to assassinate Information Minister Muhammad Safwat al-Sharif was confirmed yesterday. The military courts administration will communicate the decision to confirm the verdict to the convicts. The court has sentenced six defendants to death and three to hard labor. The court also acquitted two, and rejected the case against three others because it was filed incorrectly.

The paper says that the opinion in the case will be announced this week after the military courts administration finishes its preparations.

Court Postpones al-Jihad Mufti's Retrial

NC1306150793 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1400 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Al-Fayyum, 13 Jun (MENA)—The Supreme State Security (emergency) Court in al-Fayyum today decided to defer the retrial of al-Jihad Mufti Shaykh 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman and 48 defendants implicated in the case of the al-Shudada' Mosque in al-Fayyum in 1989 until 3 July.

The court made the decision at a session held this morning. Counselor Ahmad 'Izzat al-'Ashmawi presided over the session.

Nine Muslim Militants To Be Executed for Terrorism

NC1306061393 Paris AFP in English 2314 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, June 13 (AFP)—Nine Muslim militants sentenced to death for attacking tourists and committing other crimes in Egypt will be executed "within hours," a semi-official newspaper reported late Saturday.

One of the militants was sentenced in December by a military court in Alexandria and another was condemned by the same court in February for killing a police officer, the Al-Ahram daily said in its Sunday edition.

The seven remaining militants were sentenced in April by the military court in Cairo for attacks on tourists, it said.

The sentences have been approved by President Husni Mubarak and cannot be reversed, according to the paper.

The last executions in Egypt took place in December 1991 when three men were hanged for having killed a policeman in Alexandria.

If the Al-Ahram report is confirmed the executions will be the first of Islamic militants since a surge in fundamentalist-related violence in Egypt just over a year ago.

Since then, 155 people have died—64 militants, 38 policemen, 50 civilians and three tourists—according to a toll compiled by AFP from police sources.

Spy, Afghanistan Returnee Executed 13 Jun

NC1306124293 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1217 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] 13 Jun (MENA)—The death sentence was carried out this morning against civilian Muhammad 'Abd-al-Salam 'Ali in the jail of appeals in case No. 6/91. The sentence was passed by a state security military criminal court on charges of spying for a foreign state.

Another death sentence was carried out against civilian Hasan Ahmad Muhammad Hasan, alias Abu-'Ammar, in case No. 24/91, known as "Afghanistan returnees." The sentence was passed by the general military prosecutor in a military criminal court.

Security Team Dismantles 2 Bombs in al-Jizah

NC1406095093 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0925 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Al-Jizah, 14 Jun (MENA)—Security authorities this morning discovered two explosive devices planted by persons unknown near a car dealership and the Coca Cola company at the end of Sudan Street in al-Jizah Governorate. Security men and bomb disposal experts rushed to the area. They banned traffic and began to dismantle the bombs.

Travel to Libya With Identity Cards Canceled for Security

NC1106170493 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 10 Jun 93 p 1

[Report by Mahmud Sadiq in al-Sallum]

[Excerpt] The decision that Egyptians need passports [rather than just identity cards] to cross the border between Egypt and Libya through the al-Sallum entry point takes effect this afternoon. This is part of a plan to tighten security control on Egypt's entry points after large numbers of terrorists, trained in different countries, managed to enter the country. In the past few days, security agencies have seized many forged cards at the al-Sallum land port of entry. [passage omitted]

Writers View Rise of Fascism in Arab Region

NC1306193093 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 9 Jun 93 pp 5, 8

[Article by Sa'd Zahran and 'Adil Sayf al-Nasr: "Is It a Revival of Patriotic Democratic Forces or an Investiture of Terrorist Dictatorships in the Name of Religion?"]

[Text] In our country, as in many others in the Arab world and the Third World in general, the forces representing the interests of the poor classes are aware that the political climate gives little promise of a democratic breakthrough. Although this climate has helped solve some problems and opened up some prospects, it is not strong enough to save the people from living on the brink of the abyss or provide them with a modicum of stability. It cannot release the energies necessary for correcting the course. In the current climate the gap between rich and poor has widened and the unemployment, housing, and population crises have grown more acute. While the state has proclaimed a progressive abandonment of its obligations to ease the burdens of the poor, the job market remains unable to meet its commitments.

Many middle class leaders, intellectuals, and professionals have discovered that the merger of the local economy with the world economy has a cost, represented by a decline of their already modest living standards. Meanwhile the state's harshly overbearing organs close nearly all the doors in the face of these people's attempts to share in making political decisions and paralyze their ability to conduct any meaningful unionist action. Moreover the official ideology colludes with the forces of intellectual terrorism, thus absolving themselves of the responsibility to instill the habit of scientific thought, modernize culture and education, encourage a higher level of civilization, promote religious tolerance, and forge peaceful coexistence. Enlightened democratic forces of all religious, political, and social persuasions have elected to utilize the current limited amount of democracy to seek more democracy, considering it the sole lifesaver at the world, regional, and domestic levels. Meanwhile the leaders of the fascist forces (or those with fascist tendencies) have used this limited democracy to agitate against the democratic choice. They did not hesitate to exploit the limited opportunities of democratic action for tactical purposes and to coordinate with those who commit terrorist acts and plot to overthrow the government. Their aim has never changed: to destroy democracy and eradicate it from the people's minds.

The following should be noted: Although intellectual fascism has joint characteristics in both rich and poor countries, such as ethnic and religious fanaticism, the subjugation of enlightened scientific thinking to emotional impulse, contempt for the politics of persuasion, and an inclination toward violence and terrorism, there is still an important difference between the fascism of the

rich and the fascism of the poor. The first tends to destroy others; the second is self-destructive. For example, the hostility of the German neo-Nazis is meant to destroy others; the hostility of the Egyptian terrorists is directed against the national economy, meaning self-destruction. We should note, however, that the ultimate outcome of fascist thought and action is invariably self-destruction (with or without the destruction of others). There is no greater proof of this than the regimes of Hitler and Mussolini who led Germany and Italy, through an ocean of German, Italian, and other blood, towards an abyss of shame, defeat, and destruction. The "leaders" found their end in suicide in a bunker and execution in a square. Regardless of the tyrannical forces' outward strength, and indeed because of its inherent hostility to reason and humanity, fascism remains an ideology of despair. It sees no hope in the ability of the human community to find a positive, constructive solution to the crises of modern society. At the height of its power, fascism succeeds only in propelling its followers—and indeed all society—toward barbaric, bloody, hopeless, and self-destructive adventures. This is the fundamental reason that makes the extremist conservative right in world capitals embrace and encourage fascist groups and leaders in the Third World. It is a clandestine, indirect embrace, careful to portray the fascists as hardline nationalists or revolutionary fundamentalists.

The fascist and semi-fascist powers in our country know for sure that they are an inseparable part of the conservative political power, although they make declarations to the contrary to cope with circumstances, create the necessary disorderly propaganda, and exercise oneupmanship against loyal patriots. The engineers of the fascist scheme designed for our region—the scheme of the Islamized politicians and their military wing who try to run the Islamic Arab world by terrorist dictatorships that govern in the name of religion—found a very favorable climate and an unlimited source of finance and propaganda in the triumphs of the extremist, conservative, and rightist political powers that reached their peak in late 1991 and early 1992. The scheme started in 1979, with Khomenyni's access to power in Iran, and reached its peak about a year ago. The situation in our region at that time could be summed up in the following manner:

In Afghanistan, the armed forces of some politicized Islamic groups creeping from the Pakistani and Iranian borders had just completed the task of destroying a national coalition front that was trying to undertake the country's reconstruction after the Soviet evacuation. These teams tried to engage in a dialogue and merge with the Islamic trends in the framework of united action. However, politicized Islam insisted on monopolizing authority and on liquidating all other powers and inclinations; It got what it wanted.

With the collapse of the Soviet entity, the Central Asian republics gained independence and political Islamic parties and groups began to emerge. They were eager to partake of the ruling process and started to win support from world conservative powers and regional political Islamic powers, primarily Iran.

In the meantime, al-Bashir and his generals in Khartoum—who had no Islamic record whatsoever—had already concluded a political deal with the Muslim Brotherhood-oriented al-Turabi group. Following the example of former socialist al-Numayri, they declared Sudan an Islamic state. Since day one, this ruling coalition owed much of its existence to the Iranian support.

In Algeria, Chadli Bendjedid and his generals, in collaboration with a bunch of corrupt National Liberation Front [FLN] leaders, had concluded a similar deal with the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS]. A transfer of power from the worn-out dictatorship of Bendjedid and his clique to the fresh dictatorship to be of Abbassi Medani and his group was under way through hasty, tailored, and prearranged theatrical elections.

With the destruction of the Iraqi army in Desert Storm, Iran became the major military power in the region. The dream of acting as (the regional superpower) possessed the minds of Tehran's mullahs under the slogan of exporting the Islamic revolution.

In Egypt, the political Islamic groups that relied primarily on the international and regional conservative powers' support intensified their activity. Their leaders began to act as though they are already in power. They started to imitate Iran's mullahs, Sudan's Muslim brothers, and Afghanistan's killer and drug dealer bands; they announced the names of those who differed with them or stood in their way, issued death sentences against them, and made their recruits carry them out, not only against statesmen and security officers and soldiers, but also against thinkers and men of letters who have nothing but their pens. By doing that, they unmasked their inherent, eternal, and ignorant fascist nature. They went so far as to try to isolate remote rural areas and sectors of shantytowns to rule them by terrorism and killing, terrorize the citizens, and spread sectarian sedition and tribal vendetta. Their tools were young boys and adolescents good at nothing but killing, criminals or fugitives of justice hiding out in upper Egypt, and drug farmers and dealers. The princes and shaykhs of darkness issued more rulings and decrees everyday legalizing the illegal, prohibiting the permissible, and stamping intellectuals, writers, and artists with atheism and proscribing them.

They prohibited art, tourism, and woman's work outside the home and legalized the robbing of shops, the killing of Copts, the pillaging of wealth, the burning of churches and tourist cites, contempt for women, and attacks against tourists.

While the extremist conservative rightist powers in the United States had the upper hand in the political society and enjoyed control of the U.S. administration, international communications, and world media until the recent elections, the majority of the ruling influential

departments in the West were encouraging the implementation of a major scheme for this world region. The scheme aimed at transferring powers from the most vital states in the region to politicians professing Islam to set up dictatorial regimes in the name of religion, like the Iranian, Sudanese, or the Afghan pattern, for many reasons.

Foremost of these reasons is the precedence of political Islamic actions during the Cold War era. This Islamic trend executed hundreds of missions on various levels and fronts against leftist nationalist movements and forces, which occasionally sought Soviet help to confront the U.S. pressures and hegemony. Furthermore, the proliferation of religious states in the Arab world had given a good excuse for the presence of the Jewish religious state in Israel and for the support of the extremist religious trend there.

In addition to the many secret forms of support, which are only known when their results appear, the most important form of support given by the Western conservative departments to terrorists professing Islam in the area in general and in Egypt in particular is represented in two factors: The first of these factors is the interest shown by the world media network, the foremost of these being the American CNN and British BBC, in giving prominence to reports on political Islam in an exaggerated manner not commensurate with its real weight in the political society and among the people. This is an exposed method of giving the impression of the strength of these groups and personalities, no matter what the report or the commentary is about.

These networks also try to attract attention to these groups and personalities and to implicitly call for accepting them when the appropriate moment comes, the moment of the collapse of any local regime, and to present the alternative. The same networks, which claim to advocate neutrality and adopt objective stands, are deliberately resorting to silence, either totally or partially. They are pursuing the conspiracy of silence when it comes to the numerous activities carried out by the national democratic forces to curb sectarian sedition and arouse the state in order to put an end to the bloody terrorism that is carried out in the name of religion.

There are countless examples incriminating this world bias in favor of the terrorists professing Islam. These examples are represented in the newscasts broadcast around the clock. Regrettably, a large portion of our citizens fall victim to these vicious impressions.

The other factor of the exposed support enjoyed by the terrorist forces is that the U.S. and European capitals have been for many years the safe haven for terrorist leaders, meetings, writings, and money that is employed for implementing the religious fascist plan in the region.

There is no need here to repeat the thousands of detailed reports published by the nationalist press about this issue. We also want to refer to Shaykh 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman's travels and tours in Europe and the United States and to his comfortable residence wherever he wants. We must not forget the media networks that do not fail to report his remarks and deeds. We want to point to the abundant flow of money that passes through him to the dens of terrorism, replete with disciples to terrorize the population of our towns and villages. We must not forget the thousands of tapes that are recorded there and distributed here that call for killing, shedding blood, spreading chaos, and causing destruction in our region in general and in Egypt in particular. This is in addition to the hundreds of other deeds by Shaykh 'Abd-al-Rahman and others like him. One of these deeds could be enough—should the Washington leaders so wish—to call the Security Council for a meeting if they really deal with international terrorism with the same standard that they claim to be using in their dealing with Libyan citizens who are suspected of being terrorists.

The danger—to several important Arab countries, including Egypt—cannot be fully perceived unless we take into account what is known in political journalistic jargon as the "penetration" of the seats of power by the Islamist political movement. The fact is that this penetration is as old as the movement itself, although it took on very serious dimensions during president al-Sadat's rule.

Under the aegis of the rising power of the right in Washington and other rich industrial Western capitals and oil-producing Arab countries, the Islamist trend succeeded in holding on to many of its old positions and indeed gathered more strength from the additional backing it received from Khomeyni's Iranian state and the Afghan political Islamist groups which have turned Afghanistan into a training arena for paramilitary militias preparing to provoke civil wars in the entire region. Some of the most important leaders of this "trend" sneaked out of the country and, while enjoying the comfortable hospitality of Washington, London, and Bonn, gathered funds, sent back weapons, and composed proclamations inciting sectarian sedition and civil disobedience.

Shadowy groups became active in those capitals, using human rights slogans to paralyze their home governments' ability to deal seriously with the forces of terrorism and darkness. Journalists and media people who aligned themselves with the "groups" of darkness excelled themselves in exploiting the opportunities of democratic action for the good of these groups alone and at the same time launched ferocious campaigns against their opponents, describing them as apostates and calling for their murder. Whenever an opponent was killed or innocent people were slaughtered or intimidated, the journalists of terrorism hastened to defend the criminal murderers with all the lies at their disposal. The lawyers of terrorism exploited all possible legal loopholes and spent money profusely in order to disrupt judicial proceedings against the culprits. As time passed and it became clear that the concerned authorities were being lax and that the public was beginning to forget the crime,

the terrorist operation rooms resumed their campaigns and crimes. The process continues.

Libya

West's Action in Somalia Seen as Attack on Islam, Arabs

LD1306193093 Tripoli Great Jamahiriyah Radio Network in Arabic 1230 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The loathsome crime which is being committed in Somalia has clearly shown the background and nature of the humanitarian aid [words indistinct]. The West's media mouthpieces have been talking about aid while preparing for direct military intervention in implementation of Resolution 733, which was issued and applied on the pretext of saving the Somalis from famine and civil war.

Since the arrival of the American forces, numbering 17,156 soldiers, it has become clear that those struggling for power are constantly being manipulated by outside strings. Leaders of various factions welcomed the arrival of these forces while refusing even merely to meet and reach an agreement. Over the skulls of the Somalis, they drank toasts at the U.S. Embassy, under foreign spears and flags. The antagonists embraced by order of the invading forces, and they dreamed of a reward for what they did to the Somali people and their dirty deed which made Somalia lose its independence and freedom.

Today, the agents are getting the reward they deserve. They are tracked down from one hut to another, terrified like rats as their masters hunt them down like runaway slaves who have served their masters for a long time, but who, when they forget themselves and their tasks, receive the inevitable punishment that awaits them.

Now the role of Farah Aidid, the agent of America, is over and he has gone beyond the line drawn for him. He is now wanted dead or alive. This is the shameful and humiliating end [words indistinct] awaits all agents. It is an inevitable end, just like that of the shah of Iran, Somoza, and others. This is the reward of agents. But what crime have the Somali people committed, that they should pay the price in rivers of blood, more pain, and suffering upon suffering? These are the consequences of the power struggle.

Somalia is a living example of the extent of the tragedy, and the only losers are the Somali people. As for Siad Barre, he is a rich man living in luxury and safety with his family. What is happening in Somalia is the tragedy of tragedies. The human being has lost his dignity and the land which has been completely devastated has been transformed into a theater for maneuvers with live ammunition. The Somalis have become a moving target for the occupiers to amuse themselves with, killing them like game.

What crime have the Somalis committed to deserve to find themselves in such a situation? This is what has happened to them. Is this the humanitarian aid that they were promised? Thousands of bombs, death, terror, and destruction? What is the Somalis' crime? What have they done? Did they occupy Kuwait? Did Somalia attack a neighboring oil state? Did they constitute a threat to world security and peace? Is this the restoration of hope? Is this the plan to save Somalia?

There is no justification, and it is impossible to understand the dimensions of the crime, except as a stance toward Arabism and Islam, an attempt to liquidate Arab and Islamic civilization, and a long series carried out in episodes, with the use of the same method of direction as in films. Just as they are destroying Iraq after it was a compliant tool, today Somalia's turn has come, very quickly and without the least hesitation. Why is everything Arab being targeted and treated with arrogance? Why is this raid not being carried out against the Bosnian Serbs, who daily attack the so-called UN forces, slaughter the Muslims, and rape their womenfolk? Is it because the Bosnian Serbs are Europeans, whose pure blood, which runs in their veins, cannot be shed, as is happening in Somalia and other places? Moreover, should the groups which rejoiced and welcomed the presence of the foreign forces and rushed towards the American Embassy be (?oppressed)? Has the veil of dazzlement at Western solutions been torn from their eyes?

We have already called upon them one thousand and one times, and we have warned them every time that the solution lies in the establishment of the rule of the people and the realization of the will of every Somali. But they scorned the warnings, disregarding the historic solution which ends the struggle for power for ever. Because they were enveloped in an inferiority complex, they were caught unawares by their crimes and they opened up their country to foreign forces, deluding themselves that this would end the struggle for power in Somalia. Here they are today, harvesting the results of their scorn, inferiority complex, and dazzlement at Western solutions.

Spanish Delegation Discusses Economic Cooperation

LD1206141893 Tripoli Great Jamahiriyah Radio Network in Arabic 1230 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] A Libyan Arab-Spanish meeting was held this morning. Those present included the brother secretary general of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation, a number of experts and technicians of the Great Jamahiriyah, and a delegation of Spanish businessmen led by Martinez, director general of the Institute of Spanish-Arab Relations [name and title as heard], which included some Spanish Foreign Ministry officials. At the meeting, prospects for cooperation in the economic sphere, in such a way as to serve the interest of the two friendly peoples, were discussed.

Liaison Committee Confirms Killing of Brazzaville Envoy

LD1306202693 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 1930 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] With hearts full of grief and deep sorrow, the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation announces the death of one of its loyal sons, a martyr of duty and homeland, brother Mahmud Muhammad Sa'id [as heard; records show last name as Sa'd], secretary of the people's bureau. In the Congo, while crossing a checkpoint in a street of Brazzaville, a city witnessing great tension at this moment, fire was opened on him.

The deceased was an example of high morale and commitment to duty. We pray Almighty God to bestow mercy and atonement on his pure soul, and patience and solace on his family and kinfolk. We belong to God and we return to Him. The General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation.

His pure body will be brought back home on board a private aircraft.

Libyan Pilgrim to Jerusalem Grants Interview

LD1106132193 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 1930 GMT 8 Jun 93

[Interview with unidentified Libyan pilgrim who recently visited the al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem by unidentified correspondent; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] To begin with, welcome. I'd like to say that your visit to Jerusalem stole the limelight from the hajj season, despite reports that more that 2 million pilgrims visited the holy places this year. Your visit was also the focus of the news media in their coverage of the traditional hajj season and all its related activities. Your visit received unparalleled attention and was the subject of a diversity of commentaries and inquiries. It was considered an historic turning point and the beginning of a serious move from Mecca to Jerusalem. Some went even further and said that this visit was the beginning of changing the Qibla and returning to the first Qibla, toward which the prophet, God's prayers and peace be upon him, and Muslims used to turn to pray. Others have explained it politically and viewed it as a visit to the capital of the Palestinian state; others explained it by saying that the Libyans had gone to Jerusalem after two thirds of the world had recognized it. Others say that there is no means of drawing the attention of the Islamic nation to the fact that the Libyan people have been deprived of participation in the hajj and minor pilgrimage for two years except for the method you followed.

Amid the commentaries, comments, and allegations, a range of questions impose themselves, all the more since Saudi Arabia says that it welcomes Libyan pilgrims if they go there, and an air embargo is imposed on Libya. What made you visit Jerusalem if Saudi Arabia welcomed you and stated that thousands of Libyans had arrived there this year? Why were not you like them, and what is the difference between you and them?

[Unidentified Libyan pilgrim] True, we visited Jerusalem on our way to the hajj by air over Sudan. We went to Jerusalem, the capital of the Palestinian state, Arab Jerusalem. We went to Jerusalem after the Saudi authorities had refused to receive us, and after they had implemented the unjust Security Council resolution issued by the Western states in the days of President Bush's administration, Thatcher, and Mitterrand's party in France. This Security Council resolution itself exempted, laid down exemptions regarding religious and humanitarian matters. Saudi Arabia, however, insisted on implementing the resolution literally. True, there were perhaps Libyan pilgrims who went by land, via Italy, via Tunisia. These movements and trips were hard and tiresome; there were victims; someone lost his son, another his father on the trip; someone else lost his mother. The number of victims was very high, and so was the cost. We as a group of Libyans could not bear such hardships, difficulties, and costs. The Saudi authorities have raised a hue and cry over our pilgrimage. There started to be examples of oneupmanship far removed from the truth. Saudi Arabia always says that it refuses to mix politics and religious matters. This is good, we said in Jerusalem, that we welcome such talk. However, when mixing politics and religious affairs is in the interest of the West, Saudi Arabia does it, but if it is not use for the West, Saudi Arabia does not do it.

If Saudi Arabia is the protector, if it is the custodian of the sacred land, then reaching the sacred land ought to be made easy for all Muslims in the world, without any hardship of difficulty. On the contrary, however, Saudi Arabia was more insistent than the Christian West on depriving us Libyans of participation in the hajj. This is a point, the second point. By acting like this Saudi Arabia deprived many Libyan pilgrims, deprived us of participation in the hajj. It is responsible for this.

I want to say that Saudi Arabia, the custodian of the holy places in Mecca and Medina, is concerned a great deal with the material aspect of the matter. As you know all pilgrims spend from their own pockets, and they suffer hardship and difficulty in spending this money. This money should be collected by a neutral body, a neutral quarter, and spent on maintenance of the Islamic places, the sacred places, on Jerusalem, on the Palestinians, and on jihad for the cause of God. Saudi Arabia should not exploit it for itself.

On the other hand, what did we do, after all? In the end we went to Jerusalem for a visit. We were on our way to the hajj via Jeddah; we were not going to Riyadh. Riyadh is a political capital. We were not going to a political capital. There should not be visas; it should have been made easy, because Jeddah is the gate to Mecca and Medina, and to go to Mecca and Medina you must go to Jeddah. Jeddah is supposed to be open to all Muslims.

This is one thing. The second thing is that if there were Libyan pilgrims who arrived in Mecca by hard and difficult means, the Saudis engaged in oneupmanship, would say that we went at the instigation of the Libyan state, of the leader, thus implicating the name of the leader. All this is untrue. I personally have never met the leader, except that I see him on television; nor have we any relations with him, I mean direct relations, and there was no coordination.

[Correspondent] Permit me, what you are now saying is corroborated by the fact that even the statement you issued in Jerusalem confirms your presence in Jerusalem as people who wanted to perform the hajj rites but were prevented by Saudi Arabia from landing in Jeddah. You then headed to Jerusalem, without any interference by any official quarter.

[Libyan pilgrim] Yes, the airplane turned back while we were on our way to Jeddah. The airplane turned back after we had permission from the Sudanese authorities, and we informed Tripoli control tower that the Saudi airspace was closed before us. Concerning implicating the name of the leader, if the leader, as they say, was behind the trip, if the leadership was behind our trip to Jerusalem, then the leader was also behind the 5,000 Libyans who went to Saudi Arabia [via other routes], and they are supposed to thank him for it, because such a number arrived in Saudi Arabia. We, however, as Libyan pilgrims, met and went to Jerusalem, and we had nothing to do at all with any official quarter. We did not obtain permission from anyone, and this is clear. In the cable that the brothers sent, that we sent on behalf of the brother Libyan pilgrims, we begged pardon from the peoples' congresses for not asking for prior permission on this matter.

I wish to declare that the Libyan state had nothing to do with what we did. It was our own willful doing, and we went to Jerusalem to pray in Jerusalem and visit Jerusalem. Jerusalem is the first of the two Qiblas and third after the two holy places. Admittedly, Jerusalem was the first Qibla for Muslims before the Ka'ba.

Third, what would happen if an Arab or Islamic state was in a state of war with Saudi Arabia? In such a situation the people and president of such a state would then be deprived of the opportunity to perform the hajj rites. The Iraqis are now deprived of the hajj rites; tomorrow it will be the Iranians; the day after tomorrow it will be the Egyptians; God knows how long the list is and what its contents are. This is of course unacceptable; the sacred places are supposed to be open to all Muslims in the world.

Fourth, what did we do? We visited Jerusalem, the capital of the Palestinian state recognized by more than two thirds of the countries of the world, the capital of Palestine. Our visit was in the context of visiting the holy places, and as I said in Jerusalem, as far as we are concerned and according to our belief Israel does not exist geographically, in geography. No one has ever seen on a map of the world that there is Israel. Israel was the prophet of God as mentioned in the holy Koran. Israel was one of the prophets and messengers, and there has never been on the planet earth and the world map throughout history a place called Israel. There is Palestine, and there is now an international recognition of the Muslim Palestinian state, and a recognition that Jerusalem is its capital. This is all we did, and this is what the Saudi authorities sought to exploit for their own interest. The custodians of the holy places are supposed not to engage in lies, trickery, exploitation of situations, and falsifications. They are supposed to tell the truth and face up to their people and the Islamic world with the true facts, as mentioned in the holy Islamic religion.

Once again I want to declare that we have nothing to do with what they are saying and with the unjust propaganda that they are spreading and that Saudi Arabia is trying to exploit in one way of another. I deny this, as do the colleagues here present. All the world has heard our views.

[Correspondent] In the end, thanks be to God that you are safe. Whatever action you undertook, the truth is that visiting Jerusalem is mentioned in the holy sayings of the prophet. So long as the holy places are covetously sought by the parties which want to control the Arab region, whether Mecca and Medina or Jerusalem, there is no difference between [30-sec. interruption in transmission]. We wish you a good return, and hope to see you again.

[Unidentified speakers] Thank you.

Sudan

Papers Question U.S., UN Policy in Somalia, Bosnia

EA1306213093 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Khartoum, 13 Jun (SUNA)—AL-SUDAN AL-HADITH and AL-INQADH AL-WATANI newspapers today devoted their editorials to comments on the attacks carried out by U.S. forces against Mogadishu, the Somali capital.

AL-INQADH AL-WATANI, under the headline "The American Scenario and the UN Scandal in Somalia," said that the speed of aggression after the American forces had been called in, the U.S. assertions as voiced by President Clinton, and the UN's allegations and charges that the Somali forces had prepared an ambush against the Pakistani forces were mere pretexts for carrying out attacks which had been planned since the American forces had gone into Somalia. All this is proved by the following facts:

—The UN explained yesterday that the operation was aimed at seizing Radio Mogadishu. This confirms that the Pakistani forces were the ones who initiated the attack on the Somali forces to seize the radio station.

—The summoning of the American forces to intervene reveals that the United States has been planning unilateral action. However, it turned away from promoting it and introduced some changes, such as its alleged withdrawal. It surrendered the task to the United Nation so as to give its action legitimacy when it was carried out. This is precisely what happened.

The newspaper said that by its withdrawal, the United States intended to leave behind international forces which were weak in arms and equipment so that there could be a veiled pretext to summon U.S. forces.

The paper said: In the light of all this, it cannot be ruled out that it was the United States which ordered the Pakistani forces to carry out the attack on the Somali forces near the radio station so that it could use that as a casus belli to convince American public opinion, in particular, about the return of American forces to Somalia.

The paper said that American conduct, the events in Mogadishu, and the charges leveled against General Aidid alone, while excluding the other Somali factions, confirm that the UN itself had become one of the parties in the conflict. This also confirms that the UN has become a willing tool in U.S. hands to use as it wishes to spread its influence and its vaunted leadership of the world.

The paper concluded its editorial by saying: There is yet another fact which has become apparent during the events, namely that the Somalis have rejected the UN interference and regard it as foreign intervention in their internal affairs. This has been reflected in the clashes which took place between demonstrators and the UN forces when the American attacks stopped. This confirms that neither the UN nor the United States will get their way in Somalia no matter how long they stay there.

Under the headline "Restore Hope is Exporting Death," AL-SUDAN AL-HADITH says we should compare what is happening in Bosnia with what is happening in Somalia. It said that the UN in Bosnia was more [word indistinct] from the conscience of the world, human rights, and freedom of worship. It went on to say that in the midst of the expectations and warm anticipation about the UN, the world is surprised that "UN mercy" is directed at Somalia. It is also surprised by the call of Secretary General Butrus-Ghali, for forcible international intervention in Somalia at a time when the UN commander in Bosnia is crying out loud that he has failed to prevent the ongoing massacres there.

It said: "Bush's America" beat everybody to Somalia and deployed its sophisticated weapons all over this simple state. On that day, George Bush said in front of a number of his listeners that he wept when he saw Somali children in hunger convulsions. It seems that at the time the crocodile tears coursing down his cheeks prevented the world from asking him: What about the children of Bosnia? The paper said that they called the intervention in Somalia "Restore Hope," but in fact no hope was seen in Mogadishu until Bush left.

It said that the UN, which failed to protect the Bosnian Muslims and left them to be slaughtered by the Serbs and have their women raped, is now, together with the United States, flexing its muscles in Somalia. In Bosnia, they are silent and move slowly. In Somalia, the curtain falls on the restoration of hope and then the stage emerges with blood and death.

It is judging things according to its whims and in the clearest manner possible [as received] and we can only say: "Mercy be upon the conscience of the world." We should now mourn justice in the UN corridors.

Kuwait

Officials Reemphasize Commitment to Boycott of Israel

Ambassador Reaffirms Adherence

LD1106214593 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1959 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] Kuwait, 11 Jun (KUNA)—Kuwaiti Ambassador to the United States Dr. Shaykh Muhammad Sabah al-Salim gave a radio interview today in which he reaffirmed that Kuwait is still committed to the decision of the boycott of Israel. He said: Our position is clear—no dealing with and no recognition of Israel. In an interview with the Voice of America he pointed out that the subject of lifting the boycott depends on the results of the peace negotiations and that the boycotting of the goods produced by Israeli industry is fundamental and necessary for imposing the comprehensive peaceful solution in the Middle East.

The radio in a transmission monitored here quoted the ambassador as saying that the reconstruction of the damages inflicted by the Iraqi occupation compelled Kuwait to deal with non-Israeli international companies. Some had question marks against their names from the point of view of the boycott, but national interest made Kuwait deal with them. He pointed out that the boycotting system allows any Arab state to import or deal with companies which may be subjected to the boycott if it is within the requirements of the national interest. The Kuwaiti ambassador expressed the conviction that the boycotting of American, British, and European companies in general is futile at this stage as far as the Middle East peace process is concerned.

He said that Kuwait, for example, deals with American companies that manufacture certain types of weapons and tanks in view of the destruction inflicted by the Iraqis on the military systems and the military establishment in Kuwait. He said that Kuwait was compelled to do that because it was in the middle of reconstructing the military establishment and because it is facing an evil enemy and needs all the equipment and armor that will help it stop any Iraqi military threat. In reply to a question whether the partial lifting of the boycott will pave the way for a total lifting, the ambassador said: No, I do not believe that at all. Our attitude vis-a-vis Israel is clear—no dealing with and no recognition of Israel. What we are concerned about is the comprehensive peaceful solution and the Palestinian issue which is the core of the peace talks. In conclusion the ambassador stressed: We have done nothing illegal. We know—and the dossier is there to prove me right—that most, if not all, of the Arab states deal with companies whose names are on the boycott list because of national interests.

Foreign Ministry Comments

LD1206155293 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0820 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 12 Jun (KUNA)—Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Sulayman Majid al-Shahin, in a press interview published here today, stressed Kuwait's interest in improving its relations with all countries, without exception, and called on those who chose a hostile stand toward Kuwait to change their position.

In an interview with AL-SIYASAH newspaper, he said: "We do not live in a vacuum; we live in a changeable situation," making it clear that the countries that chose a hostile stand should change their position. [passage omitted]

Al-Shahin denied, for his part, what has been said on the maritime blockade which has been inflicted on Iraq following the final demarcation of the Kuwaiti-Iraqi land and sea borders, making clear that "no state has the right to change its borders the way that it chooses or that is suitable for it. Otherwise, the world would have turned into chaos, and the world map would have been altered."

He also made clear that Iraq has maritime borders from Ras al-Bishah, south of al-Faw, to the Iraqi Umm Qasr, about 70 km out of Shatt al-Arab, where the historical Basra port is situated. In addition, Iraq has benefited from the maritime borders demarcation and has Khawr al-Zubayir, as well as a guarantee of the right of free navigation.

The Foreign Ministry under secretary stressed that, as far as Kuwait's stand on the Arab boycott of Israel is concerned, Kuwait is at the forefront of the Arab countries that are committed to the Arab League resolutions pertaining to this issue, pointing out that "we should not be lured by certain news agencies with malicious and blatant objectives." [passage omitted]

Arab League Informed of Compliance

PM1106102093 Riyadh AL-RIYAD in Arabic 8 Jun 93 pp 1, 28

[Unattributed report: ""Kuwait Informs League of Its Commitment To Boycott of Israel"]

[Text] Kuwait, AL-RIYAD Bureau—Kuwait has informed the Arab League General Secretariat of its compliance with all its resolutions on the Arab boycott of Israel. It also stressed its adherence to the collective Arab position in this connection.

Meanwhile, the Arab League has emphasized that it considers all the member states committed to the the main outlines of the boycott policy, whose lifting is linked to the achievement of a just settlement to the Arab-Israeli dispute.

It pointed out that the State of Kuwait has not violated this consensus.

Eleven Pro-Iraqi Jordanians Sentenced to Death

LD1206125793 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1145 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Kuwait, 12 Jun (KUNA)—The State Security prosecution had accused the 11 Jordanian nationals of assisting the Iraqi forces during their occupation of Kuwait, by enlisting in the ranks of the military wing of the Arab Liberation Front and working with the Iraqi forces to eliminate the Kuwaiti resistance, in addition to bearing arms and taking money from a hostile quarter to harm the national interests of the country. The court found the accused guilty and sentenced 10 of them to death: Muhammad 'Ali Ahmad, 20; Basil 'Ali Ahmad, 22; 'Imad al-Din Muhammad Nimr, 29; Akram Shakir Ahmad, 26; al-M'utaz Billah Muhammad Salih, 23; Muntasir Muhammad Salih, 20; Basim Hasan Muhammad, 23; Husayn Rashid, 22; Mu'ayyad Yasin Husayn, 23; Iyad Muhammad 'Isa, 19. The court also fined each of them 2,000 dinars. The court sentenced the 11th accused—Husam Muhammad Rashid, 18— to four years imprisonment, fined him 1,000 dinars, and ordered his expulsion at the end of his sentence.

'Security Belt Project' Under Way on Iraqi Border

LD1206195493 Kuwait KSC Television in Arabic 1800 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] The implementation of the first phase of the country's security belt project started today at the 'Awjah triangle in the southern region. The project is aimed at bolstering the country's security in confronting the hostile intentions of the Iraqi regime and its persistent threats to Kuwait's sovereignty, security, and stability. For further details we present the following report:

[Unidentified reporter] Dear listeners, best greetings from the Kuwaiti border. The initial steps in the project for the security belt, which separates the Kuwaiti border from the Iraqi border, began today. The director of the executive committee of the project, Major General Muhammad al-Badr, today gave the starting signal for this vital project, the security belt project.

[Begin al-Badr recording] Today we start the digging for an earthen barrier and trench along the country's border line after its demarcation in accordance with all UN official procedures. We hope that this barrier will help the country's security forces in their duty to prevent infiltration and smuggling. It is also a clear sign to border guards and civilians of the position of the border. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Cabinet Assails OPEC, Discusses Security Belt, Somalia

LD1306164293 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1512 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 13 Jun (KUNA)—The Kuwaiti Council of Ministers today said it deplored the fact that OPEC did not abide by the February agreement on output quotas despite the Kuwaiti oil minister's attempt to persuade the OPEC members about the need to be fair to Kuwait and increase its quota in accordance with its past quota and production capacity. The council also stressed Kuwait's anxiousness to support stability in the oil market, adding that the country will adopt a responsible attitude to preserve the common interest of all parties.

This came in a statement made by Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Dakhil, at the end of the cabinet meeting chaired by Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah, the heir apparent and prime minister. Al-Dakhil said that the council also listened to a report on the execution of the first stage of the security belt in the southwest of the country. This stage, which began yesterday and is expected to be completed in three months, consists of digging a trench and building an earth rampart along the international borders between Kuwait and Iraq. He added that the council also reviewed the remaining stages of the security belt project which includes the use of electronic surveillance devices and modern and sophisticated equipment and systems that will enable Kuwait to deal adequately with all potential threats.

He pointed out in this respect that this integrated project aims to reinforce the security of the country and to enable it to confront the hostile intentions of the Iraqi regime, its continuous threats against Kuwait's sovereignty and stability, and its persistence in pursuing its criminal plans against Kuwait. [passage omitted]

Moreover, the minister of state for cabinet affairs said that the council discussed the deterioration of the situation in Somalia and stressed its confidence in the ability of the United Nations to contain these regrettable developments, restore stability and end the suffering of the Somali people. [passage omitted]

Then the council reviewed the results achieved by the OPEC'S ministerial meeting which ended in Geneva last Thursday. [passage omitted]

The council also discussed the deterioration of the situation in Somalia which has required the use of military force by UN troops to confront the attempts aimed at undermining the UN efforts to bring peace to Somalia. In this respect, the council expressed its confidence in the ability of the United Nations to contain these regrettable developments, restore stability, and end the suffering of the Somali people. [passage omitted]

Premier Rejects Complaints About Deportees' Treatment

PM1106151193 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 11 Jun 93 p 1

[Ghunaym Muhammad al-Mutayri report: "Shaykh Sa'd Tells AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: We Will Implement Judiciary's Sentences Against Suspects in Bush Case"]

[Text] Kuwait—Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister, yesterday announced that sentences which the judiciary passes and the amir endorses will be implemented in accordance with the law.

He said that Kuwait had examined the deportees' conditions in the Talhah deportation prison and had reduced their numbers from 2,000 to only 600. He emphasized that investigation committees are studying and dealing with the deportees' cases. And that those whose status is amended and against whom no sentences have been passed will be allowed to reside in Kuwait. He denied the existence of any political prison in the country.

Shaykh Sa'd was speaking to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT following his visit to the deportation center yesterday. During the visit he inspected the Talhah center's installations and facilities. He also listened to presentations from the general director of the General Directorate of Investigation at the Kuwaiti Interior Ministry, the general director of the Prison Directorate, and a number of officials at the center.

Shaykh Sa'd emphasized that media reports abroad about maltreatment of the deportees in the Talhah Prison are completely unfounded and that the deportees are treated humanely in accordance with human rights.

In his statement to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT he added that this center had been set up in special circumstances which resulted from the Iraqi aggression on Kuwait. It was natural to have a prison there to detain those who violated the law. They would be deported from the country only after securing all their rights, both from the government and in private affairs.

On the trial of the terrorist network accused of attempting to assassinate Bush, the Kuwaiti heir apparent said: We are awaiting the Kuwaiti judiciary's word. Once the judiciary has its say and the amir of Kuwait endorses the verdict, we must implement it. We will not hesitate to carry out Kuwaiti law against anyone who lets himself be enticed into undermining the security of citizens and others living on Kuwait's territory.

Saudi Arabia

Fahd Congratulates Hashemi-Rafsanjani on Reelection

LD1306172793 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1640 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Jeddah, 13 Jun (SPA)—King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques, has sent a message of congratulations to Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Here is the text of the message:

Your Excellency President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani of the Islamic Republic of Iran: On the occasion of your reelection as president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, I have the pleasure of sending your excellency the most sincere congratulations on the trust given to you by the Iranian people. I wish your excellency continued success in your weighty duties, and I look forward to the persistence of your good efforts to deepen and strengthen the good relations that link our two countries. Please accept my greetings, and may God protect you.

[Signed] King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, custodian of the two holy mosques

King Cables Congratulations to Yeltsin on National Day

LD1306194093 Riyadh SPA in English 1910 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Jeddah, June 13, SPA—Custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud has sent a cable of congratulation to President Boris Yeltsin of Russia on the occasion of his country's national day anniversary.

The Saudi monarch for his part and on the behalf of his people and government expressed the heartfelt compliments to President Yeltsin and hoped for constant progress and prosperity for the friendly people of Russia.

United Arab Emirates

President Congratulates Hashemi-Rafsanjani on Reelection

JN1406094793 Abu Dhabi United Arab Emirates Radio Network in Arabic 0930 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the state, has sent a cable of congratulations to His Excellency Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on his reelection for a second term in office.

His Highness Shaykh Maktum Bin-Rashid Al Maktum, deputy president and prime minister, also sent a cable of congratulations to His Excellency President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani on his reelection.

Paper Criticizes Clinton Administration Policies

JN1006125693 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0618 GMT 10 Jun 93

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Jun (INA)—The newspaper AL-QADISIYAH says that the Clinton administration has not forged for itself a policy marked by some measure of human reflection to resolve international problems different from the hostile course pursued by the Bush government, even though it has been in office for over a hundred days, the trial period of any new White House occupant.

In an article published today, the paper affirms that the new U.S. Government has failed to find a remedy for the heinous crimes committed against the Muslims of Bosnia-Herzegovina by Serbs. Moreover, the paper notes, it has failed to recognize the Palestinian people's rights, and to ensure food security for the Somali people. Worse still, the paper maintains, it has persisted with and maintained the embargo imposed on the Iraqi people.

The paper adds: Bill Clinton, who is riding the bandwagon of the influential Zionist lobby in the United States, cannot in any conceivable way renege on the promises he made to Zionists during his election campaign. During that campaign, he promised to move his country's embassy to Jerusalem, and to deem indivisible the security of both the Zionist entity and the United States. The same goes for the Kuwait territory and Saudi Arabia.

AL-QADISIYAH goes on to say: The current U.S. Government, just as was the case with the previous government, receives instructions from the Zionist lobby, whose leaders have been promoting the notion that Iraq continues to pose the gravest possible danger to the Zionist entity.

The paper says: Those who charge that Clinton and his administration are characterized by indecision and inconstancy are nursing delusions. This is because his positions on Iraq, the Palestine question, and the Muslims of Bosnia-Herzegovina were forged even before he set foot in the White House.

Concluding its article, the paper says: We have no choice but to rely on our intrinsic potentials and seek God's help in tackling the embargo. We must draw on our potential strength and readiness to make sacrifices. Also, we must seek the assistance of honorable Arabs, for with their help, the embargo will be broken, God willing.

Assembly Speaker Assails 'Occupation' in Somalia

JN1106190593 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] News reports speak about military reinforcements deployed to Somalia in preparation for fresh aggression against the Somali people in the name of the United Nations.

Commenting on the reports, National Assembly Speaker Sa'di Mahdi Salih told the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY: We were pained by the news of the incident that claimed the lives of Pakistani and other troops serving with the forces that occupied Somalia in the name of the United Nations. However, that incident and other earlier events prove these military forces are occupying a country against the will of its people. They are not there on a humanitarian mission on behalf of the United Nations.

Those who care about the reputation and the true role of the United Nations, Salih added, can draw the correct conclusion about the entire operation.

Because the people of Somalia reject foreign occupation, forces that went there under the cover of relief supplies must pull out of the country, instead of drawing up military plans to attack its people.

Salih noted that Iraq had warned against the consequences of occupying Somalia and compromising its sovereignty. Iraq, he added, condemns the military actions against the people of Somalia and urges nations that have no colonial objectives to withdraw their forces from the country. He especially called on the Muslim state of Pakistan not to be carried away by the urge to take revenge for Pakistanis killed in Somalia and to be mindful of the potential sin of shedding blood in a sisterly Muslim nation.

U.S. Role Termed 'Aggressive'

JN1206111693 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0645 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Baghdad, 12 Jun (INA)—Two Iraqi papers say that U.S. aggression and interference in Somalia's domestic affairs have unmasked the forces that entered Somalia on the pretext of helping its people in the of face starvation and civil war.

AL-JUMHURIYAH and AL-'IRAQ have criticized the UN absence in the situation in Somalia and the serious development of the U.S. aggressive role.

AL-JUMHURIYAH says that the UN troops in Somalia are a tool in the hands of the United States, which is trying to achieve colonialist objectives that are hostile to the people, freedom, and the independence of all nations.

In an editorial today, the paper says that the troops that have entered Somalia on the pretext of helping its people in the face of starvation and civil war have been unmasked after playing the role of a foreign force that suppresses the people and their political forces and seizes their right to self-determination.

Returning to the language of force and intimidation, the paper explains, the U.S. Administration has sent in air power to strike at the Somali people, although it is fully aware that this will be of no use, simply because any air bombardment of Somalia will only strengthen the spirit of freedom, independence, and enmity to the United

States. Besides, such a bombardment will result in further assaults against UN troops.

The paper says that the bombardment will not eliminate the forces opposed to the U.S. colonialists, but will heighten anti-U.S. sentiments and will lead other Somali political forces to join anti-U.S. positions. Besides, from a purely military angle, the bombardment will be no more than the arbitrary killing of ordinary people with the aim of intimidation.

The paper adds that it was the Mother of Battles that paved the path of struggle and glorious defense of national independence against the wave of U.S. colonialism before all mankind. This battle has clearly displayed the greatest lesson of our times—telling us that the people's will to be free is stronger than any military power in the world.

The paper notes that if the United States strikes at Somalia, it will become another example to the people. The paper says that the United States has even begun to lose the powerful position it has monopolized for less than three years. For if Somalia is capable of defying and responding to U.S. slaps, then what about stronger and richer nations that nurture the seeds of uprising?

AL-JUMHURIYAH asks: What will the United States do when it faces more than one Iraq and more than one Somalia in the world, each rising for freedom and national independence? Will it be able to confront five or ten uprisings?

Concluding its editorial, the paper calls on the United States to withdraw its colonialist plan and admit that it is only a big power among other big powers and that it should have respect for medium and small powers in a world that no longer tolerates hegemony and colonialism.

AL-'IRAQ urges the peoples of the world to be aware of international changes in light of the painful absence of the United Nations and the serious development of the U.S. aggressive role.

In its editorial, the paper discusses the military aggression against Somalia and the U.S. policy of hegemony and aggression. It notes that aggression constitutes one of the phenomenon of the new world order, taking place under the guise of the United Nations and under false, eye-catching slogans.

The paper says that the Somali model stands out as an indication of the essence of the U.S. political, military, and economic stands on a wide range of world issues, beginning with the 30-state aggression against Iraq and ending with what is going on in the former Yugoslavia.

The paper adds that there is growing evidence that the United States has entered Somalia to fan the fire and exacerbate the situation there.

The paper says that in light of the extensive reporting on the new U.S. aggression against Somalia, observers must question the absence of the United Nations and what the United Nations is supposed to do on the international front to establish peace and stability in volatile areas.

Concluding its article, the paper calls on the peoples of the world to find proper and firm means to curb U.S. attempts to control nations' destinies and to raise a solid wall between the United States and its colonialist intentions and global objectives, which are linked to the world Zionist monopolies.

Kuwaiti Prisoners Moved to Unknown Destinations

PM1106081693 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 10 Jun 93 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Iraqi Authorities Move Kuwaiti Detainees to Unknown Destinations"]

[Text] London, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Dr. Hamid al-Bayyati, representative of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, has announced that on 5 and 6 May 1993 [as published] the Iraqi authorities moved to unknown destinations scores of the Kuwaitis captured during the invasion of Kuwait in August 1991.

Well-informed sources have said that the Kuwaitis were moved at night from the Abu-Ghurayb prison and al-Radwaniyah and al-Rashidiyah detention centers to secret prisons in the desert near Tikrit and Bijiyah cities.

The sources added that the transportation process was carried out by five buses escorted by tight security provided by forces belonging to the special security organs.

The sources did not specify the Kuwaiti detainees' exact number. However, they emphasized that over 200 detainees have been moved over the past two days.

Norway's Foreign Affairs Minister Visits Israel

TA1306093093 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 13 Jun 93 p 2

[Report by ITIM]

[Text] Norwegian Foreign Affairs Minister Johan Jorgen Holst arrived for a two-day visit to Israel yesterday. During his visit he will confer with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, Likud Chairman Binyamin Netanyahu, and Palestinian representatives. Holst will also be received by President 'Ezer Weizman.

Herman Pedersen, Norway's new ambassador to Israel, is also among Holst's entourage. He will travel back to Oslo before returning to Israel next week.

Meets With Peres, Beilin

TA1406110193 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 13 Jun 93

[Communication by Foreign Ministry spokesman Evyatar Manor]

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres met today (Sunday), 13.6.93, with Norwegian foreign minister Johan Jorgen Holst, who is in Israel on an official visit. Foreign Minister Peres emphasized the long-standing friendship between the two countries and the Norwegian foreign minister thanked him for the warm reception he received.

Foreign Minister Peres briefed the guest on the situation of both tracks of the peace negotiations and stressed the existing gaps between Israel and the Palestinians/Syria.

The Norwegian minister attributed the gap between the Israeli and Syrian positions to differing interpretations of various terms—by the Syrians, on the one hand, and by the Western states (including Israel) on the other—in all matters concerning the conception of the character of negotiations.

Foreign Minister Peres defined the last round of multilateral talks as successful, and he said that the talks have entered into a practical and substantive phase. The Middle East needs a new infrastructure in order to deal with the many problems in the region, from the water shortage to the intensification of Moslem extremism. The multi-lateral talks are dealing with the planning and establishment of this infrastructure. Europe plays a central role on this track. Europe must support the democratization of and industrialization of the Middle East, thereby assisting its economic growth.

The Norwegian foreign minister stressed the commonality of basic values between Europe and Israe., even if there are sometimes differences as to one Israeli policy or another. Minister Holst inquired as to the matter of the Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] deportees and the closure. Minister Peres described the Israeli measures to ease the economic implications of the closure on residents of the territories.

Minister Peres briefed the guest on the Iranian threat which requires a coordinated approach with the Western world.

During the meeting between Deputy Foreign Minister Dr. Yosi Beilin and the Norwegian foreign minister which was held before the meeting with Peres, Beilin raised the matter of adding Israel to the Western Europe group (within the framework of the chemical weapons charter). The Norwegian foreign minister promised the deputy foreign minister the full support of Norway vis-a-vis the Israeli request.

During the meeting, Beilin briefed the guest on Israeli relations with the South African ANC [African National Congress], in light of the close relations between Norway and the ANC. Dr. Beilin also stressed the importance of increased European investments in the territories, in order to assist in the development of the economy of the territories.

Beilin Says Report of Talks in Norway 'Baseless'

TA1306155093 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Telephone interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Yosi Beilin by Mikha Friedman and Goni Mardor—live]

[Excerpts] [Friedman] The cabinet ministers today listened to a scholarly lecture about the notion of Gaza First. At the same time, U.S. sources claim that Israeli, U.S., and PLO representatives have been meeting in Norway to discuss the notion of Gaza, Ramallah, Nablus, and Hebron first within some kind of attempt to expand the dimensions of the autonomy and determine Palestinian-administered areas in the first stage. How do you reconcile these two reports?

[Beilin] It is a very interesting report, but I do not know that it is based on anything. I think it is rather baseless.

[Friedman] Is it absolutely unfounded?

[Beilin] Look, I was not there. I do not know whether such a meeting has occurred. I do not know about such an event, and it is hard for me to believe that it has taken place. At the same time, it is true that at the moment there are more possibilities of holding talks with Palestinians and Jordanians than with the Syrians, which definitely constitutes a problem for us.

[Mardor] What do you know about an indirect talk between Nimrod Novik and Yasir 'Arafat, which, according to THE JERUSALEM POST, took place with the approval of the foreign minister?

[Beilin] That is simply rubbish. It is the same old story. Each time I go to Egypt—and 'Arafat is always there either before or after my visit—there are reports about

indirect talks. However, what happens on all those occasions is that he confers with 'Amr Musa or with Usamah al-Baz, who then say: 'Arafat was here, and he is definitely in favor of peace, or some such statement, and this is immediately perceived as some kind of message. Well, it is not a message or anything of the kind.

[Friedman] Let us go back to the list of cities. Gaza, Ramallah, Nabulus, Hebron may not have been discussed in Norway, but the Palestinians—and Yasir 'Arafat himself—keep talking about Gaza and Jericho first. Is Israel at all contemplating such a possibility?

[Beilin] The idea of Gaza First—a term that entails many possibilities—is being raised today by the Palestinians in the context of the West Bank. They fear that Gaza First might turn out to be Gaza Last if a separate arrangement is really attained, whereas having some kind of bridge to the West Bank would assure them that the West Bank will not be forgotten in the future.

This looks very complicated to me. In other words, it is hard for me to see, at least at this stage, how such a set-up would look in practice. One can understand it theoretically, but it is hard for me to see how it would be put into practice. I think that a separate solution for Gaza, coupled with willingness in principle to fulfill the permanent arrangement in the West Bank, would be much more practical than some kind of impossible bridge. [passage omitted]

[Mardor] We would like to check another issue with you, and I assume your answer will be brief. What do you know about the Egyptians' contention that they hanged an Israeli spy today?

[Beilin] I have not heard about such a thing.

[Mardor] You do not know about any man who spied for Israel who was hanged today in Cairo.

[Beilin] No.

[Mardor] Dr. Beilin, thank you very much.

Visit by Austria's Vranitzky Called Positive

AU1106182893 Vienna Oesterreich Eins Radio Network in German 1600 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Armin Wolf report]

[Text] Chancellor Vranitzky concluded his first visit to Israel in a Viennese cafe, which had been built in the Jerusalem City Theater for an Austrian tour. Speaking to many Israeli journalists, Vranitzky drew up a completely positive balance sheet of his visit, and the Israeli reactions were also extremely friendly—both in the media, which covered the visit comprehensively and benevolently, and, above all, among the political interlocutors. You have touched our heart, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres told the chancellor at the end of his visit. Opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu, who was once very critical of Austria, also spoke of a particularly welcome change in relations.

Vranitzky invited Israeli Prime Minister Rabin to visit Austria and will convey an Israeli invitation to President Klestil.

There is no doubt that the climax of this visit was Vranitzky's speech about Austria's dealing with the Nazi period, in which he said: We must beg forgiveness for our evil deeds from the survivors and descendents of the victims.

The chancellor was obviously touched by the cordial reception he was given by Austrian Jews who had been driven out of Austria by the Nazis.

In Israel, one also recognizes a change in the tone of Austria's Middle East policy. In Austria's view, the implementation of the Palestinians' right to self-determination need not necessarily be realized in the form of an independent Palestinian state, Vranitzky said. However, this is the business of the parties to the negotiations. Nevertheless, this is a clear shifting of emphasis compared with Bruno Kreisky's Middle East policy, which had been much criticized in Israel.

Sources Confirm Contacts on Ties With North Korea

TA1306113293 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Political sources in Jerusalem say Israel is holding contacts with North Korea on their bilateral relations. This follows an announcement that North Korea was suspending its withdrawal from the nuclear nonproliferation treaty. One day later, on Saturday [12 June], North Korea was to have pulled out of the accord, after it had barred two inspectors from suspected nuclear waste sites some 60 miles north of the capital, Pyongyang.

In Jerusalem, it was reported that the United States put pressure on Israel to refrain from developing bilateral ties, but now that North Korea is remaining a signatory to the nonproliferation treaty, Israel intended proceeding with the discussions, the sources said.

On a previous occasion, North Korea suggested that Israel buy a mine in its territory to extract and market gold.

Peres on Peace Talks, Relations With North Korea

TA1406072193 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0805 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Telephone interview with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres by Shalom Qital—live]

[Text] [Qital] We have been hearing a variety of assessments in anticipation of the upcoming round of talks, the 10th in number. How do you envisage its prospects?

[Peres] Indeed, a great deal depends on the Arab side this time. I think we have made vast efforts to bridge the positions of the two sides. I would not make predictions, either favorable or negative. I think a very good chance has been created which should not be missed.

[Qital] A chance for what? What do you expect this time? Do you expect to sign some sort of document?

[Peres] I very much hope we will be able to reach an agreement with the Palestinians about a political paper, which must be some kind of agenda for the negotiations similar to the one we signed—or almost signed—with the Jordanians.

[Qital] How much importance do you attach to the possibility of Jordan's King Husayn arriving in Washington?

[Peres] I do not think Husayn will change his basic position. In other words, he will not be the first to sign. His position in the Arab world is so delicate that he would be left alone if he is the first to sign, and he has been very careful not to do that. There is no doubt, however, that upon arriving in Washington, Husayn will want to prove, to the extent that he can, that he is a man pushing, identifying with, and interested in the peace process, a man who believes that time is running out and that the attainment of a full agreement should not be delayed.

[Qital] Has any progress been made since the beginning of the talks in Madrid about 20 months ago to this day? Are we closer to a peace agreement today than we were then?

[Peres] That period must be divided in two: the first half under the Likud's tenure and the second half under the current government. The current government has been in office some 11 months, and I definitely think that many changes have occurred in that time. Issues that initially looked like major and fundamental obstacles were either pared down or removed altogether in the course of the negotiations, including the entire question of the settlements, to cite just one example. Furthermore, the two sides have come closer and attained a great deal with regard to the formulations. I would like to have attained more, but there is no denying that progress has been made.

[Qital] Mr. Peres, do you need a visa from the Americans to travel to North Korea?

[Peres] I do not need a visa from the Americans to go to North Korea, but the Americans are in the midst of negotiations with North Korea, and we should not barge in like a bull in a china shop. After all, we do not presume to replace America in global negotiations, and we do not have the means the United States has to pressure North Korea. Therefore, while we turn an attentive ear to North Korea's proposals, we do not want to turn our backs on the fact that the United States is the leader conducting these negotiations. North Korea definitely is an unpredictable and hard nut to crack. It is one of the last communist regimes in the world. The fact that they have once again signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty obviously constitutes an achievement for the United States.

[Qital] We would like to explain that you want to go to North Korea to persuade it not to sell missiles to Iran.

[Peres] Yes. In fact, where missiles and nonconventional weapons are concerned, North Korea and the PRC remain the two main loose ends. The Chinese promised—in talks with me as well—not to sell any more missiles to either Iran or Syria. I tend to believe their promise, because today the PRC wants very much to be portrayed as a moderate superpower trying to bring about peace in the world. Just as it is very energetic on the economic issue, it is also very moderate on the political issue. I would say that it is all silk politically and all steel economically.

[Qital] In the meantime, you are going to Vienna today.

[Peres] Indeed, I am leaving for Vienna today, where I will hold meetings with several foreign ministers, including the U.S. secretary of state and the Egyptian foreign minister. As for the human rights conference, I see no reason why Israel should be pushed into a corner, and we should not adopt a defensive position. I think we are a country that respects human rights and our people are fervent supporters of human rights. Respect for human rights spans from the Book of Genesis throughout the Bible. We are all created in God's image, and God does not give license to any of us to raise ourselves above all others.

[Qital] Thank you very much, Mr. Peres, and bon voyage.

Envoy on al-Shar' Meeting, U.S. Involvement

TA1206090193 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0705 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Interview with Itamar Rabinovich, ambassador in Washington and head of delegation to the peace talks with Syria, by Arye Golan in Washington; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Golan] Professor Itamar Rabinovich, Israel's ambassador in Washington, does not believe the pronouncements prior to the 10th round of talks are overly optimistic.

[Rabinovich] There were several positive pronouncements in the region, some from Israel and some from the Arab world, and there were cautious statements emanating from Washington, but I would not characterize the general profile of these expressions as optimistic or as raising expectations.

[Golan] But is there anything specific, such as messages passed from one side to the other, which can support the hope that this round will be more successful than its predecessors?

[Rabinovich] In reference to the Syrian track, I must say there are still no signs pointing to any specific direction. What perhaps distinguishes the week prior to the upcoming round is that there have been no signals from Damascus, either through newspaper analyses or a speech by a Syrian public figure or by a Syrian expert permitted to go to the West to say things that the Syrian establishment does not yet dare to say, which happened in earlier rounds. There have been no signals this time, although Syria unequivocally supported a positive Arab response to the invitation to the Washington talks at the foreign ministers meeting in Amman, and, from that viewpoint, it expressed its firm support for the process. The picture of the contents of the process, however, remains misty.

In reference to the Palestinians, there are encouraging external signs. They are coming without any preconditions, they issued their agreement to attend at an early stage, and contrary to what was said, a preparatory delegation did come to Washington this week. All those things indicate at least a serious approach, if not more than that. Since, as in previous rounds, especially the ninth, we want to make progress with the Palestinians along concrete tracks and toward concrete targets, there is an American determination to assist us in that, and there is an entire team waiting to do just that, I hope that the mix of these three components will lead to a real outcome with the Palestinians in this round.

[Golan] What about the Israeli-Syrian track, in which you are involved? You said there are no signals from Damascus. Perhaps there is a need to raise the negotiators' level? There is talk about a possible meeting between Shim'on Peres and the Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'.

[Rabinovich] There is talk because both will be in Vienna at a UN convention early next week, but I do not think there is any real plan for such a meeting. There is a need to raise the level of dialogue on substance and to be more forthright, which calls for closer proximity to the decisionmakers in Damascus. We have been saying for some time that we feel there is a need to raise the level of dialogue with Syria. There have recently been pronouncements by our political echelon about that and we would be happy if it happens.

[Golan] But can it change positions? For example, can a Peres-al-Shar' meeting lead Syria to give up its demand for a total Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights?

[Rabinovich] First, I suggest we do not focus on a meeting, which I do not think will take place. In other words, since I do not think such a meeting in Vienna should be expected, I would not build an analysis on such a meeting. Anyway, I would say that in general there is a very close link in negotiations between procedure and essence. A certain form of dialogue, a meeting called in diplomatic jargon, a walk in the park, or a walk in the woods, where ideas are exchanged informally—without anything being written down by either side, which helps the leaderships of both sides to learn what is feasible, what the other side wants, how far it is willing to go—can contribute significantly to advancing a plan. The lack of such a dialogue between us and the Syrians is very striking when taking into consideration the importance of a similar move—the Dayan-al-Tuhami meeting in Morocco—for the Israeli-Egypt dialogue [which led to their peace accord]. Therefore generally speaking, there is a link and it can be very positive. I would, however, like to point to something else, known to us from our contacts with the Syrians, that they demand compensation for everything. The Syrians might say: We are willing to draw closer to you on format, but we want an immediate return on contents, and that would not be acceptable to us.

[Golan] You earlier mentioned U.S. involvement. Secretary Christopher promised deeper involvement this time. How do you think that will find expression?

[Rabinovich] I do not foresee greater involvement in the 10th round than in the ninth, which was intensive and intimate, and there were daily contacts between the leadership of the senior State Department officials handling the peace talks and us. The secretary of state is closely following developments. If he feels there is any need, he turns to his political colleagues in the Middle East. The lack of progress in the ninth round was not because of the level of U.S. involvement, but because of difficulties which reflect the situation itself.

[Golan] What about Clinton's domestic problems and the impact they have? This U.S. Administration is being sharply criticized in the media and its level of support is low, according to opinion polls. How can that influence the level of U.S. interest and activity in the peace talks?

[Rabinovich] Weakness or malfunction by the administration are not good for us as Israelis and participants in the peace process. Of course, developments in U.S. foreign policy, the stress on involvement in Yugoslavia or directing resources to Russia can also influence the level of involvement and motivation about the Middle East.

Delegate Neriya: No More Gestures to Palestinians

TA1306110593 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Israel will not make any more gestures to the Palestinians in the new round of bilateral negotiations. This was stated by the diplomatic adviser to the prime minister, Dr. Jacques Neriya, who is also a member of the delegation. In a news conference in Jerusalem, he said the government has been very forthcoming, and it's now up to the Palestinians to negotiate a declaration of principles with Israel. Jack Katzenell reports:

[Begin recording] [Katzenell] Dr. Jacques Neriya reminded the Palestinians that Israel honored the Camp David agreement, even though it was not guaranteed by the United Nations. He said they had no grounds to fear that this government would perpetuate the interim settlement or would not honor its commitment to negotiate on the second stage, the permanent settlement. After all, he said, Prime Minister Rabin in his interview with the Palestinian newspaper AL-QUDS had said it categorically that Israel is not contemplating annexation of the territories.

Neriya was asked why Israel was not prepared to use the expression occupied territories, as the Palestinians were demanding.

[Neriya] Semantics is a second phase. The problem is the core issue, the core issue how to see the things going on. Whereas the Palestinians want today to finalize the agreement, we say: No, in two phases. This is a very basic element, and a very basic difference of concepts.

[Katzenell] Neriya said Israel had made enough gestures and concessions to the Palestinians, and there will be no more for the present. It is now up to the Palestinians to negotiate seriously with Israel on the declaration of principles.

Turning to the negotiations with Syria, in which he is directly involved, Neriya said the Syrians have to engage in more public diplomacy to show that they really desire peace. Neriya said late Egyptian President Anwar al-Sadat made an extremely tough speech in the Knesset, but the fact that he came at all convinced the Israeli public that he was serious. Neriya said the Syrians have not done a fraction of what al-Sadat did.

[Neriya] We mean to hear from the Syrians what they mean by full peace. Whereas withdrawal is very tangible—you know that it is very concrete, peace is not tangible. You must translate it into deeds: Do you mean diplomatic relations? Do you mean open borders? Do you mean trade relations? Do you mean freedom of movement between peoples? Do you mean embassies? This is what the Syrians have to explain to us.

[Katzenell] On the other hand, Jacques Neriya disclosed that serious progress had been made with the Syrians on the discussion of security arrangements. [end recording]

Rabin, Christopher Discuss Peace Talks, Guarantees

TA1406044793 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher phoned Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin yesterday evening from Turkey. Qol Yisra'el's diplomatic affairs correspondent says the call initiated by the American secretary lasted 10 minutes. The two men discussed the peace talks, which are scheduled to resume tomorrow.

Prime Minister Rabin also assured Secretary Christopher that Israel views the American loan guarantees as extremely important for the Israeli economy and the effort to absorb new immigrants.

The prime minister's comments followed reports in American newspapers that some Israeli officials oppose the guarantees.

Rabin Says Peace Process at 'Irreversible Stage'

TA1406055793 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0405 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] On the eve of the resumption of the peace talks, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said that the peace process has reached an irreversible stage and that as soon as the Syrian president spells out what kind of peace he has in mind, Israel will clarify the kind of withdrawal it is prepared to effect. Referring to the possible emergence of a new Jewish underground, the prime minister said: We will not allow the existence of an armed force that rejects the state's authority. The prime minister was addressing a conference of educators at Jerusalem City Hall. Our correspondent Gil Litman reports:

[Begin recording] [Litman] Smiling apologetically, the prime minister began by explaining why he was 20 minutes late in getting to Jerusalem City Hall. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher phoned me from Istanbul, Rabin said, and I could not help being late. After this brief introduction, Rabin spoke for an hour and 10 minutes, talking a little bit about education and schools—he was addressing pedagogues, after all—and a little bit about jobs and unemployment and about fighting bureaucracy. In anticipation of the resumption of the peace talks, however, he devoted the bulk of his speech to the political issue.

Rabin spoke at length about the two spheres—the Syrian and the Palestinian—once again analyzing, answering rhetorical questions, and presenting his well-known positions. The Syrian president must first explain what kind of peace he has in mind, and then we will expound on the extent of the withdrawal we will agree to effect on the Golan Heights, he said. In reply to a question by the principal of a school in Jerusalem, Rabin gave a basic lesson on how to conduct negotiations in the Middle East:

[Rabin] Political negotiations in the Middle East resemble a Persian bazaar. The moment you expose your positions, you are finished. I have defined our position: willingness to withdraw on the Golan Heights to secure and recognized borders. We will not discuss the extent of the withdrawal before we receive an answer. When al-Asad gives his answer and spells out his terms, I will say what we accept and what we do not accept. I will not say it here. These are the ABC's of negotiations. [applause]

[Litman] Rabin resorted to making use of the names of Middle East countries, even when referring to what is a

very hot issue these days: Is a new Jewish underground forming in the territories? The prime minister did not reveal whether an underground exists. Here is the answer of the man who 45 years ago was the commander of the Palmah, which sank the Irgun ship Altalena.

[Rabin] I cannot conceive of the Lebanonization of Israeli society. Lebanonization is when an armed element does not recognize the state's authority. Ben-Gurion quashed this in 1948. Regardless of whether this is actually anyone's intention, the fact is that such an attempt looks like the destruction of the state from within rather than by outside enemies.

[Litman] No to armed resistance, but yes to demonstrations, Rabin said. I am faced with demonstrations these days, and I have no problem whatsoever with them, he said.

The prime minister mentioned the word peace dozens of times. He ended his speech by asserting that the peace process is irreversible, that it is a process that has reached the point of no return from the point of view of the Arab countries as well. We have two options now: One is peace; the other is a freeze and everything that can engender. The prime minister ended his speech on this note, without elaborating. [end recording]

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 0400 GMT on 14 June quotes Prime Minister Rabin as saying that "within one to one-and-a-half years, all the countries of the region will know whether they are marching toward peace or toward a freeze" and that "he hopes that at the end of the negotiations with Syria, Israel will not return to the pre-1967 boundaries on the Golan Heights."]

U.S. Administration's Policy Toward Israel Reviewed

TA1106132493 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT (LESHABAT supplement) in Hebrew 11 Jun 93 p 5

[Commentary by Ron Ben-Yishay in Washington]

[Excerpt] Quietly, without making bombastic statements that might cause some of the parties involved lose their temper, a shift has taken place. Several months ago, after intensive consultations behind the scenes, the Clinton administration conceptualized a new Middle East policy—substantially different from that maintained by previous administrations.

As far as Israel is concerned, the change is absolutely positive; from the Arab point of view it is less so. The shift in the new administration's Middle East policy openly gave Israel the status of a privileged ally—similar to that of Saudi Arabia or Germany. Presently, Israel's neighbors and the Palestinians will have to settle for Secretary of State Warren Christopher's promise that the United States will continue to maintain an "even-handed" Middle East policy and a deep and active U.S. involvement in the peace process.

Not all of Clinton's staffers are happy with the open, declared pro-Israeli line. Many in the State Department and the White House have warned the President that the Arabs could lose their patience, possibly stopping the peace process. At the same time, authoritative sources in Washington say that administration policymakers are convinced that the current state of affairs—with an Israeli Government willing to make territorial and other concessions in return for peace accords—constitutes an almost one-time opportunity to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

To this end, sources in Washington say, the Arabs must acknowledge the fact that they can neither defeat Israel militarily nor extort political or economic concessions from it through U.S. pressure. A senior administration source recently said in a briefing: "The Arabs, including the Palestinians, must realize that we will not do their dirty work for them by applying political pressure to Israel or by withholding economic aid. Some of the previous administrations tried this method and failed. All they did was increase the Arabs' appetite. As long as Israel proves that it wants to attain peace through compromise, we will stand by it, not pressure it, and hold practical discussions with it. We will even make sure that the concessions it makes do not harm its security."

The main practical expression of the new attitude is the intimate daily dialogue between Washington and Jerusalem. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and his aides coordinate almost all of their peace process moves in advance by with the U.S. "peace team." The Syrians are furious, the Palestinians protest, but the Americans are adhering to their method of operation, while being careful not to lose their status as an honest broker among the Arabs.

They are making clear to the Palestinians that they will support any demand they make to improve living conditions in the territories and any reasonable compromise offer they may raise—but will not deviate from the guidelines set in the Madrid conference and the Camp David accords and will not demand that Israel compromise its security. In his last letter to President al-Asad, President Clinton made it clear that before al-Asad demands that Israel show its withdrawal cards, he must provide a detailed explanation of his "full peace" remark. At the same time, the administration hinted it will not settle for a state of nonbelligerency. As expected, and contrary to past practices, Israel welcomes the administration's increasing involvement in the peace process.

And this is not all. As may be recalled, some two months ago Clinton promised Rabin to "upgrade" the level of defense relations between the two countries. The change has indeed been felt by Israel's defense establishment. Things are happening in areas that the media is not covering. Joint efforts to bloc Iranian terror and the Iranian and Iraqi efforts to arm themselves with missiles and nuclear arms are at a very advanced stage.

A veteran Israel diplomat said recently that "we have never had such good relations with an American administration. U.S. Jewry and Israel must keep their fingers crossed for Clinton and pray for an improvement in his showing in public opinion polls." The feeling among the leadership of U.S. Jewry is that the good times are back, as if to compensate for the hard times of the Bush administration.

How could this positive stand toward Israel be explained? The prevailing explanation in Washington is that Clinton wants to secure the broad support of the Jewish community for the next presidential race. This, coupled with the facts that the Arabs have lost their chief sponsor with the collapse of the USSR and that Arab oil can no longer be used as an instrument of extortion, allows President Clinton to maintain his pro-Israeli line without much fear of the Arab reaction. The importance of the Jewish vote not withstanding, the President's associates view support for Israel as a part of broader world perception, which includes a new view of the Middle East in the post-Cold War and Gulf war era. [passage omitted]

Basyuni Optimistic on Agreement With Palestinians, Syria

TA1406110993 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1005 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Muhammad Basyuni is optimistic about the Syrians and the Palestinians. He was addressing the Jewish-Arab Center at Haifa University. Our correspondent Haviva Roger reports:

[Begin recording] [Roger] I am optimistic, the Egyptian ambassador to Israel declared this morning. I believe that we will attain two agreements in this round of talks: an agreement on the transfer of power in the territories to the Palestinians, except for security arrangements, and an agreement on a joint declaration of principles. This will be a positive step toward the continuation of the talks that will lead to autonomy itself, Basyuni said.

[Basyuni, in English] I do believe that during this round we will reach two agreements: One agreement will be about transferring the authority to the Palestinians, except security, and the other agreement will be agreement about a joint declaration of principles. I believe that it will be a very good step toward continuing the talks to reach another agreement about autonomy itself.

[Roger] Ambassador Basyuni also expressed optimism about progress in the talks between Syria and Israel. Nevertheless, he emphasized, there is no doubt that Syria will not agree to less than the model of peace between Israel and Egypt; that is, a full withdrawal in exchange for a full peace.

Owing to its experience in the negotiations with Israel, Egypt can play an important role in the current negotiations. Owing to its unique status and its relations with all the sides, it has a key role to play in persuading the sides to reach agreements and in doing whatever it can to bridge over the gaps and reach understanding, he said.

[Basyuni, in English] Egypt, you know, has a pioneering step toward the road of peace. Its unique position and her relations with all the parties concerned are playing a key role to convince the parties concerned to reach agreements and to try to do all it can do to bridge the gaps and to reach an understanding.

[Roger] We asked the Egyptian ambassador to comment on reports that an Egyptian citizen convicted of spying for Israel had been executed in Egypt, but he categorically refused to reply. [end recording]

Sources Deny Knowledge of Spy Executed in Egypt

TA1306115293 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1130 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Eldad Beck—live]

[Text] Reacting to the AP report released a short time ago whereby, in addition to Muslim fundamentalists, Egypt today executed an Egyptian man convicted of spying for Israel two years ago, political sources in Jerusalem say that Israel knows nothing about a spy or any other person convicted of spying for Israel who was hanged today or about any man held in an Egyptian prison who is being charged with spying for Israel.

The sources noted that although the Egyptians claimed there was an espionage affair two years ago involving furniture dealer David Ovitz, none of the people detained at that time remains in jail. The political sources emphasize that if any person charged with spying for Israel had been arrested—not to mention on the verge of being executed—the Israeli authorities would have interceded in the issue. However, seeing that Israel knows nothing about such a person, nothing has been done, the sources said.

Transfer of Powers To Be Offered to Palestinians

TA1306064193 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 13 Jun 93 pp A1, A8

[Report by 'Aqiva Eldar, Ori Nir, and news agencies]

[Excerpt] On the eve of Israeli delegations' departure for the Washington peace talks, it has been learned that the United States intends to focus its efforts on persuading the Palestinians and Israel to reach agreement on the immediate transfer of Civil Administration's powers to residents of the territories.

Political elements in Jerusalem note that a decision to this effect was made in recent days when it was realized that profound gaps still divide the Israeli and Palestinian stands on the joint paper of principles, and that the United States believes the chances of drafting a paper on the transfer of powers are better.

The Palestinians have expressed willingness in principle to assume responsibility for issues such as local police, but had reservations about other issues, particularly tax collection in the territories. Prospective Palestinian police officers have recently finished an extensive training course in Egypt. The trainees had been selected by 'Arafat himself. Gaza representatives in the Palestinian delegation have already informed the Americans that they will accept a proposal for autonomy in Gaza First provided the 'Arafat-led PLO is allowed to assume leadership in the Strip, with a clear affiliation with the West Bank.

It has been learned that Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres still preaches for the immediate implementation of the Gaza First idea in internal discussions, while Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin opines that the matter is unfeasible at this stage as a result of the PLO's demand to implement autonomy in Jericho as well. At the Meretz ministers' request, Rabin will meet with them in the coming days to discuss the government moves in the peace talks.

According to reports from Washington, the administration plans to deepen its involvement in the talks, most notably in the Israeli-Palestinian track, in the wake of Syrian President al-Asad's response to President Clinton, in which he avoided referring to the question of the nature of peace. The United States may suggest in the coming round that the parties provide simultaneous answers to both questions by responding to its questionnaires. [passage omitted]

Police Make Plans To Move Prisoners Under Autonomy

TA1306192493 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] The Police Ministry has prepared a position paper on the future of the security prisoners in the territories under autonomy. The contingency plan was called for after it transpired that a large number of the 5,000 security prisoners have been incarcerated in the territories, a situation that cannot continue when autonomy is set up. Our correspondent Uri Kohen-Aharonov reports:

The position paper is based on the principle that the Israeli Government will not be able to leave security prisoners in jails in the territories for operational and security reasons and, in principle, when autonomy is established. Senior sources in the Police Ministry note that no Israeli Government will be able look the Israeli public in the eye if it frees the terrorists, in particular those who murdered Israelis. In other words, we have to prepare detention centers inside the Green Line for thousands of security prisoners, a contingency based on two principles: first, that murderers of Israelis will not be freed until they complete their sentences; and second, that the local authorities in the autonomous region—police, courts, and prisons—will deal with criminal offenses, but Israel will remain sovereign over security matters. It has not been ruled out, however, that criminal prisoners from the territories will be handed over to the autonomous government. Nevertheless, those who thought that with the establishment of autonomy the pressure on the prison system would decline have been mistaken.

Cabinet Discusses Territories, Settlers' Actions

TA1306155493

[Editorial Report] Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1200 GMT on 13 June reports: "Environment Minister Yosi Sarid says that some ministers will find it difficult to continue sitting in the cabinet if the economic plight of the territories worsens. He said investments in the territories are too small and have to be increased. Earlier, our correspondent Shlomo Raz noted that there was a harsh exchange between the ministers during a report on the closure of the territories and investments there. Labor and Welfare Minister Ora Namir claimed that the government does not invest in the territories, to which Finance Minister Avraham Shohat responded that she does not understand what she is saying. In reference to the remark that some ministers who will find it hard to sit in the cabinet if there are no investments in the territories, Interior Minister Der'i expressed dissatisfaction with the fact that Sarid was publicly criticizing the cabinet."

The report goes on to say: "The cabinet approved the finance minister's plan to set up an industrial export zone in the Negev or Galilee. The industrial plants will not have to pay corporate taxes for 20 years and will not be answerable to the bureaucratic system. The government will issue a tender, and the winner will decide whether the zone will be set up in the Galilee or the Negev. The new industrial area will be spread over 2,000 dunams, and when it is completed, some 20,000 people will be employed there."

Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1300 GMT on 13 June adds: "Shin Bet representatives reported at today's cabinet meeting on Jewish settlers' activities. Our correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that Yosi Sarid recommended that the cabinet show leniency and restraint toward settlers' demonstrations since, he said, they are legitimate, reflect the settlers' weakness, and are a preferred alternative to more violent actions. The cabinet was also given a report on the closure of the territories, including infiltrations by Palestinians across the Green Line and Israelis who have gone back to employing nonorganized workers from the territories because they are tempted by the low wages they can pay them. The ministers were told about pronouncements by Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] deportees in Lebanon that they should use the permission given to some of them to return. The ministers were also told about moves to the appeals committees dealing with the deportees. In the economic field, the prime minister attacked statements that Israel does not need the entire sum of the

U.S. loan guarantees. Mr. Rabin said that such expressions are contrary to the country's needs and harm Israel in its battle for foreign aid."

Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1400 GMT on 13 June notes: "Prime Minister Rabin briefed the ministers on the political situation on the eve of the resumption of the peace talks on Tuesday. Those who think that progress can be made by running after the Palestinians are simply wrong, he said. The prime minister spoke approvingly about the U.S. bridging proposals, noting that they are even better than the ones raised by some Israeli elements. Rabin reiterated that Israel will agree to discuss the notion of Gaza First in the negotiations, but only after an agreement in principle has been reached."

Settlers Stage Anti-Withdrawal Protest in Jerusalem

TA1306111593 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Excerpt] Jewish settlers from the territories and groups on the right have erected booths and tents in the Rose Garden opposite the Knesset. The settlers are holding five days of protest to coincide with the resumption of the Washington peace talks, around the slogan: Rabin Has No Mandate [to cede land], and That's a Fact. [passage omitted]

Opposition Factions Visit Site

TA1406104493 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Opposition factions held a meeting at the Rose Garden in Jerusalem, opposite the Knesset, in solidarity with the protest camp set up by Jewish settlers at the site. Hanan Porat from the National Religious Party attacked what he termed the attempts by the prime minister to delegitimize the Jewish residents of the territories. Likud Chairman Binyamin Netanyahu called on the prime minister to declare new elections.

Tzomet Party leader Refa'el Eytan does not accept the assessments of Prime Minister Rabin regarding the peace process. He charged that the government could endanger the very existence of the state. He said that his party has not considered or expressed willingness or held talks to join the coalition.

The Knesset plenum will debate four motions of no confidence this afternoon. The motions all concern the peace process.

Government To Approve Illegally Built Houses

TA1306105093 Tel Aviv HAD. SHOT in Hebrew 13 Jun 93 p 6

[Report by Aharon Klein]

[Excerpt] The Civil Administration will soon retroactively approve the illegal building of thousands of houses in the territories, in what is considered to be an Israeli gesture toward the Palestinian delegation on the eve of the 10th round of peace talks.

The next few days will see expeditious registration in the Land Registry Office of thousands of houses in Judaea and Samaria that have been built illegally on agricultural land, or against the stipulations of various master plans. Only several dozens of illegally built houses that could not be legalized after the fact will be demolished soon.

During the ninth round of peace talks, the Palestinian delegation asked Israel to approve the illegal building of thousands of houses, and the Israeli delegation promised to examine this issue.

During the years of occupation thousands of buildings and houses have been built without proper Civil Administration licensing. Some of the houses were built on agricultural land, while others were built contrary to the master plans.

The issue of demolishing these houses has always been extremely sensitive, and over the years the demolition of many houses was avoided, while the quantity of illegal building has increased with every year. This is partly caused by the fact that a large number of the towns and villages in the territories do not have orderly and up-to-date master plans.

As villages grew the Palestinians started resorting to illegally building houses and buildings on agricultural land surrounding the center of the old villages. Civil Administration officials, on their part, were in no hurry to update the master plans over the years.

The retroactive building licenses will be given to home owners after the updated master plans are issued with an extension of the municipal area of the towns and a quick release of agricultural land for building purposes.

Senior sources in the defense establishment confirmed that there is an intention to retroactively approve thousands of illegally built houses in a quick manner. The desire to complete this complicated process already in the next few days is a gesture aimed at the Palestinian peace delegation. [passage omitted]

Nusaybah Meets Peace Now, Comments on Talks

TA1306102993 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 13 Jun 93 p 3

[Report by Yehuda Tzur]

[Excerpt] "All the sides accepted the fact that the issue of Jerusalem would be raised only during the final part of the peace negotiations. Now, however, because of the closure, I think that the Palestinians will have to raise this issue already in the next few days, when the next round of peace talks start." These remarks were made yesterday by Sari Nusaybah, a prominent Palestinian

leader, during a meeting held in Jerusalem between Palestinian leaders in the territories and Peace Now activists.

This is the first in a series of meetings Peace Now intends to hold with the Palestinian leadership in the territories. The purpose of the meetings is to strengthen the peace forces on both sides in order to facilitate the peace process, according to Peace Now secretary Gavri Bar-Gil.

During the meeting Nusaybah said that the closure has brought about a separation between Jerusalem and the territories, and this in turn strengthened the Palestinian rejectionist camp, which opposes the peace process and makes life difficult for the Palestinian leadership striving to advance the peace process.

Nusaybah claims that Jerusalem is a vital center of Palestinian life, and consequently the Palestinians cannot tolerate the separation of Jerusalem from the territories. He said that Jerusalem is a religious center for all Palestinians, and it is inconceivable that they would have to seek licenses for coming to pray. Nusaybah accused Israel of being unwilling to guarentee at this point it's intention to stop controlling the Palestinian population in the framework of the permanent arrangement. He noted that he understands it is impossible to conclude the permanent arrangement now, and he accepts the pursuance of the autonomy period prior to the permanent settlement, but Israel must state now that in principle it does not intend to rule the Palestinian population.

Nusaybah also said he does not rule out the possibility of a confederation between the Palestinian entity and Jordan as a final solution. According to him, the timetable of the peace process is limited because procrastination and stalemate in the negotiations delegitimizes the Palestinian delegation and harms the whole peace process. [passage omitted]

Katyusha Attack, Injury to Deportee Reported

TA1206045593 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Several Katyusha rockets hit northern Israel last night. No one was hurt and no damage was caused. Around 2300, the sound of explosions was heard. Qol Yisra'el's reporter in the north says security forces are searching for the remains of the rockets. [passage omitted]

One of the Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] deportees in south Lebanon has been wounded when a bomb blew up in a field near their encampment. The bomb had apparently been lying unnoticed near the area before the Hamas activists set up their makeshift camp after being deported by Israel in early December.

High Radioactivity Detected Near Egyptian Border

TA1406084393 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0700 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Radioactivity five times higher than the acceptable norm has been detected in the water well at Nizzana, near the Egyptian border, but experts contend that it does not pose any danger. Dr. Lita'i of the Atomic Energy Commission told our correspondent Shulamit Schmerling that the water in Nizzana does not pose any danger whatsoever. Because of its salinity, this water is only used for irrigation. Checks of agricultural crops in the area failed to yield any findings. Dr. Lita'i added that checks of all the water wells in the Negev Mountains are currently under way.

* Tel Aviv Symposium Revives Nuclear Debate

93WP0167A Brussels NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 18 May 93 p 11

[Article by Salomon Bouman: "Debate on Nuclear Weapons in Israel Under Way"]

[Text] Tel Aviv, 18 May—"Our best defense against a nuclear attack (from the Islamic world) is the presence of the holy places of Islam in Jerusalem. No Islamic leader will risk launching a nuclear weapon against Israel and with that take on the risk of destroying the holy places." Those are the words of (reserve) Major General Avihu Ben-Nun, until recently commander of the Israeli Air Force. One of his predecessors in this prestigious military top function, (reserve) Major General Moti Hod, shakes his head, steps up to the microphone and gives a plea for a hermetically sealed security shield above Israel against a potential nuclear missile attack. According to him, Israel must not count on the fear of God of unpredictable Islamic leaders but must continue as soon as possible the development of the antiballistic Arrow missile, an Israeli version of the American Star Wars program.

This clash between the views of two former Air Force commanders occurred yesterday afternoon during a public symposium on "The Middle East: Toward a Nuclear Era?," which was organized by the Institute for Strategic Studies of Tel Aviv University. With this symposium the nuclear debate finally has come out of the freezer in Israel, although none of the participating specialists disclosed anything on Israel's nuclear capability.

According to several speakers, the Arabic and Iranian nuclear danger will be taking on alarming forms for Israel at the end of this century. General Motti Hod suggested that an Islamic leader might possibly be inspired to attack Israel with nuclear weapons when the Jewish population of the state of Israel will have reached 6 million. "Were 6 million Jews not murdered by Hitlerite Germany in World War II?" The fact that a former commander of the Israeli Air Force is able to suggest

such an idea publicly, without any reaction from the generals, specialists, and security functionaries in the almost full hall is an indication that the nuclear danger is of so much concern to Israelis that even eccentric scenarios are taken seriously.

Dr Ariel Levite, a scientific collaborator of the Institute for Strategic Studies, concluded on the basis of an investigation into the Arabic media that the fear of Arabs for Israeli nuclear weapons is still very great. There is a mysterious aspect to that because Israel still has not made its nuclear capability public and lets the world, including the Arabs, guess as to the mass destruction weapons, nuclear bomb, hydrogen bomb, or neutron bomb in its arsenal.

"Israel will not be the first, but also not the second country which will introduce the nuclear weapon in the Middle East," is one of the best known, tactical nuclear pronouncements of the then renowned Commander in Chief and Minister of Defense General Moshe Dayan.

At the conference table there was absolute unanimity on the importance of total secrecy regarding the Israeli nuclear capability. The war in the Gulf area in 1991 led to a shift, however, on two important points in Israeli public opinion on the secrecy policy of the government and the use by Israel of nuclear weapons. In 1987 only 87 percent was in favor of strict protection of the nuclear secret, in 1991 that percentage decreased to 71 percent. In 1986, 66 percent were against Israel's use of nuclear weapons. After the war of 1991 only 33 percent supported that view.

All the speakers emphasized that Israel, because of its relatively low number of inhabitants and small surface area, should keep its nuclear capability on hand as a very important strategic trump card and that it should not publicize it under any condition.

In this context it is of great importance that Dr Efraim Sneh, member of the important Defense Commission of the Parliament for the governing Labor Party, demanded that the nuclear question be completely decoupled from the peace debate. "For us that is simply not negotiable," he shouted. It is very likely that Sneh made this statement on behalf of Premier Yitzhak Rabin in order to keep the Israeli nuclear capability outside of the strategic peace discussion. According to Sneh (son of the Israeli communist leader Moshe Sneh),the Iranian nuclear program is being rapidly accelerated and therefore it is of great importance to bring the Israeli-Palestinian-Arabic conflict as rapidly as possible to a solution. "I have personally heard from Jordanians and Egyptians that they have an interest in forming a strategic alliance with Israel against the fundamentalist Muslim danger from Iran," he said.

To create such a situation, the Palestinian factor in the context of the conflict in the Middle East will first have to be neutralized. Therefore it is important, according to Sneh and others, to hasten the peace process before Iran comes into possession of nuclear weapons, perhaps even before the end of the 20th century. Sneh has little faith in the willpower of the international community to bring an Iranian nuclear weapons program to a halt. Those who listened to him carefully yesterday could determine from his choice of words that Israel will have to face it alone and will ultimately have to make decisions that can be compared to the destruction of the Iraqi nuclear reactor near Baghdad in 1981.

King, Queen Depart 13 Jun for Official U.S. Visit

JN1306121593 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1100 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Husayn, accompanied by Her Majesty Queen Nur, left Amman for London at noon today en route to the United States on an official visit that will last several days at the invitation of His Excellency President Bill Clinton.

His Majesty King Husayn and President Clinton will hold official talks dealing with issues of mutual interest, regional issues, and bilateral relations. His majesty will also meet with senior U.S. officials and political and intellectual figures.

His Highness Prince Faysal Bin-al-Husayn took the constitutional oath before the king as regent during his majesty's absence from the homeland. The ministers attended the oath-taking ceremony. [passage omitted]

His majesty is accompanied by Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, prime minister and foreign minister; Dr. Khalid al-Karaki, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; His Highness Prince Talal Bin-Muhammad, his majesty's military secretary; and Dr. Muhammad al-'Adwan, chief of royal protocol.

Visit Said To Solicit Support for Arab Stand

JN1406074293 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 14 Jun 93 pp 1, 16

[Editorial: "Expected Success of Husayn's Washington Visit"]

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn's trip to London and Washington is primarily aimed at soliciting support for the unified Arab position reached at the Amman meeting of the Arab cordon states to discuss the peace process.

Washington, London, and the entire world know that King Husayn is eager to see the negotiations succeed in order to achieve a just, comprehensive, and durable peace by not passing up the current opportunity for peace.

Practically and objectively, there is no doubt that King Husayn is the best person to explain Arab positions and win international support.

The king's visit is also intended to brief Washington and London on the successful democratic changes in Jordan, representing a working example and an experiment worthy of emulation by other states in the region. The king will also seek to lift the unofficial trade and economic siege imposed on Jordan since the Gulf war.

It is no secret that Jordan has incurred huge economic and trade losses as a result of this illogical, unwarranted siege. Jordan has also suffered great economic difficulties as a result of the expulsion of more than 200,000 Palestinians from Kuwait and the Gulf and from providing all necessary facilities to workers returning from the Gulf to their countries.

Official and popular political quarters have praised Jordan's efforts and its role in ensuring the safety of workers and providing all facilities to them.

We think that His Majesty King Husayn's visit to London and Washington to meet with the British prime minister and the U.S. President will be successful by all standards. This is especially true because the visit comes at a time when the Clinton administration is showing increased concern with the negotiations, affirming its willingness to invigorate them and make them succeed.

The fact that the U.S. Administration holds King Husayn in high esteem will enable him to explain Jordan's constant principles and Arab positions, based on international legitimacy and the land-for-peace formula. King Husayn will also seek to break the ice regarding Jordanian-U.S. relations and improve them to serve the higher interests of Jordan and the Arab nation.

Delegates to Washington Peace Negotiations Named

JN1206140193 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1100 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] The Council of Ministers has decided to form the Jordanian delegation to the bilateral peace talks, scheduled to be held in Washington on 15 June, as follows:

Head of delegation: Dr. Fayiz al-Tarawinah, Jordan's ambassador to Washington.

Members: Marwan Dudin, Dr. Taysir 'Abd-al-Jabir, Major General Tahsin Shurdum, Dr. Mundhir Haddadin, Dr. Muhammad Bani-Hani, Dr. 'Abdallah Tuqan, Ambassador Hasan Abu-Ni'mah, Ambassador Shakir 'Arabiyat, Ambassador Nayif al-Qadi, Ambassador 'Awn Khasawinah, 'Abd-al-Ilah al-Kurdi, Dr. Musa Burayzat, and Dr. Marwan al-Mu'ashshir.

The Council of Ministers also decided that the following shall join the delegation as experts: Dr. Tahir Kan'an, Dr. Ibrahim Badran, Wasif 'Azar, Dr. Ahmad Qatanani, Dr. Hani al-Mulqi, Dr. Durayd Mahasinah, Dr. Michel Marto, Dr. Muhammad 'Alwan, and Dr. Hisham Baban. The experts will travel when the need arises.

Team Departs for Washington

JN1206155993 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Several members of the Jordanian delegation to the bilateral peace talks left Amman this morning to join Dr. Fayiz al-Tarawinah, head of the delegation, to participate in the 10th round of negotiations scheduled to begin in Washington on 15 June.

On their arrival in Washington, the heads of Arab delegations are expected to hold meetings to further

coordinate stands and exchange views before the beginning of negotiations on various tracks at the U.S. State Department next Tuesday.

Prime Minister Comments on 10th Round of Talks

JN1206142693 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1100 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] The prime minister has said that Jordanian-U.S. relations will be among the most important topics which His Majesty King Husayn will discuss during his forthcoming visit to the United States, with particular emphasis on economic relations.

In an interview with the Lebanese newspaper AL-SAFIR, Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali said that the invitation extended to his majesty to visit the United States is an expression of the good intentions to eliminate the consequences of the misunderstandings that have appeared in the aftermath of the Gulf war.

Asked about the Middle East peace negotiations, the prime minister said there are positive signs that the two cosponsors are serious about the negotiations, and that the United States will be an effective partner in the peace process. Furthermore, he said there are positive signs on the part of the Israeli side, particularly in regards to the Palestinian track.

The prime minister said the chances of peace are good because everybody needs peace and Jordan cannot continue in this matter unless satisfactory progress is achieved on the Palestinian track.

Asked about what might happen at the 10th round of negotiations, the prime minister said that anything is possible and the next round could begin with a declaration of agreement on principles.

Dr. al-Majali said that among the positive recent signs on the American and the Israeli levels is that for the first time in the history of negotiations the Americans met with the participating delegations in the presence of the U.S. secretary of state. He added that for the first time also there is an offer for a meeting between the Israeli and Palestinian delegations to overcome obstacles standing in the way of the negotiations.

He said the Palestinians have only one leadership, namely, the Palestine Liberation Organization, which should be recognized. He added that all indications are that this recognition is likely.

In another interview published by the newspaper AL-'ALAM today, Prime Minister al-Majali said that among the objectives of the domestic policy, which he will pay attention to, is the democratic process, as well as submitting proposals for all the necessary legislation to bolster this process.

He said his government will deal seriously with the problem of unemployment in the country and the economic problems related to the foreign debts.

Premier al-Majali also asserted that Jordan seeks just, comprehensive, and durable peace that can be accepted by future generations and that can provide them with a dignified and prosperous life.

He said that among the top priorities of his government at the next phase is to eliminate obstacles that obstruct the restoration of the unity of Arab ranks.

Stresses Unified Stance

JN1206144193 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1100 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Excerpts] In an interview with the newspaper AL-'ALAM today, Prime Minister al-Majali said there are absolutely no grounds for reports that he was appointed only to advance the peace process or hold the elections. Any government, and this one is no exception, has programs and objectives, some related to domestic policy and others to foreign policy. One cannot possibly pay attention to one aspect and ignore the other. Both are interdependent and complementary. [passage omitted]

The prime minister said everybody should understand that the peace process is different from war. In war, we have a loser and a winner. In peace, however, all parties expect to win and believe that the peace process will be in the interest of all negotiators. There will be no losers. However, the gain that might be achieved by any party can be either material or moral, instantaneous or in the future. It is the duty of every party to convince the other party of the gains it is going to achieve through peace, so it can take its true share of peace. He pointed out that there are obstacles to peace, noting the need to overcome them.

He added that there is no escape from the peace talks, since there is no solution at present except for honorable peace. Therefore, we should all be in agreement and united, especially the parties concerned with the peace process.

If the Palestinians, Syrians, Lebanese, and Jordanians reach a unified stand, then we will achieve a just and honorable peace. He further pointed out that the peace tracks are different and deal with different issues. They might, therefore, pick up different speeds. The finishing line, however, will be inclusive of the four Syrian, Lebanese, Jordanian, and Palestinian tracks. No track can reach the finishing line before the other tracks.

Remarks on Israeli Contacts

JN1206181893 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1510 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Beirut, 12 Jun (PETRA)—[passage omitted] In an interview with the newspaper AL-'ALAM AL-YAWM, Prime Minister 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, who

also holds the portfolio of foreign minister, said: The Palestine question is the core of the peace process, just like it was the core of the conflict. If there is no clear progress to benefit the Palestinian people, then there will be no clear progress on the other tracks. We must acknowledge the fact that the Palestinian track is difficult and requires time, effort, and patience. It also requires support from governments and peoples. I can emphasize that if the people and governments support the negotiating teams, the peace process will be accelerated and rights will return to their rightful owners.

He added: We do not need secret meetings with the Israelis because we are negotiating in public.

He asserted that Jordan will not sign a peace treaty with Israel before all the other tracks, particularly the Palestinian track, end in success.

Al-Majali added: We want the Palestinian delegation to be independent. We have always sought to achieve that. Despite the fact that Jordan provided the umbrella for the Palestinian brothers to enter the negotiations when they started in Madrid, we insist on the independence of Palestinian decisionmaking and their independent action because this is their own business.

Dr. al-Majali said: The Palestinians are free, and have the right, to talk to any of the brothers in any way they choose. They can do that. So can we and the others. If they talk to the Egyptians, there is nothing wrong with that. We should not forget that the brothers in Egypt have a good, and wide experience, particularly in negotiating with Israel. Everybody, and not just the Palestinians, should benefit from that experience. We are not upset by, nor do we oppose the Palestinians coordinating with Egypt, regardless of the extent of that coordination, since this is their right. If we place restrictions on them, they will place restrictions on us and this is unacceptable.

He said: Jordan is coordinating with everybody. Our coordination with the Palestinian delegation is very important.

Regarding the Arab situation, Dr. al-Majali said: The Arabs have faced many political storms in previous decades, but there has always been a solution. The current situation is a family matter among the Arab states. I believe it is necessary for all the heavy clouds in the Arab sky to disappear. This is not a difficult thing to do if the Arab brothers want to do it. On our part, we in Jordan will put the pan-Arab interest before the national interest.

He added that one of his main priorities in the next phase will be the attempt to remove the obstacles preventing the reunification of Arab ranks. He said: There are many enemies lying in wait for the nation. The issue here is not "reconciliation" because we have not fought each other.

Regarding the situation in Iraq, he said: We believe the Iraqi people have the right to choose their own leadership. Individuals, any individuals, are mortal, but what remains is the peoples and the homelands. When the Iraqi people choose a leadership, this is their own choice and we cannot impose upon them someone to lead them. We cannot interfere in the affairs of Iraq and the Iraqi people. This is an important matter.

Paper Views U.S. Role in Talks, King's U.S. Visit

JN1206092493 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 12 Jun 93 p 1

[Editorial: "What About the U.S. Role in the 10th Round?"]

[Text] The 10th round of negotiations which begins in a few days will put both the U.S. Administration and the Rabin government to the test, thus revealing the extent of their readiness to reactivate the negotiations and render the peace process a success.

The U.S. Administration should fulfill its promises and pledges made to the Palestinian delegation and the Arab cordon states. Likewise, the Rabin government and the Israeli negotiating team should abide by the resolutions of international legitimacy, as well as the principle of withdrawal from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories in return for a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace.

The Palestinian side is in the process of holding talks with the U.S. Administration to urge it to be a full and effective partner in negotiations. We wish the Palestinian side success in convincing the U.S. sponsor that it should pressure Israel into recognizing the Palestinian people's national rights, led by their rights to self-determination and the establishment of an independent state on their national soil.

His Majesty King Husayn will visit the United States soon for talks with President Clinton on behalf of all Arab parties. We are absolutely confident that his majesty will represent the Arab parties well and brief President Clinton and the U.S. Administration officials on the principles of the Arab stand, based on Resolutions 242 and 338 and the land-for-peace principle.

King Husayn will also brief President Clinton on the unlimited Arab and Palestinian concern for peace and for not wasting the available peace opportunity, provided that it should be a comprehensive peace on all tracks and fronts, and also a just and lasting peace rather than a temporary truce.

The Arab parties will not accept a settlement which is not based on the resolutions of international legitimacy, nor will they accept a solution which disregards the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights. The Arab parties have thus placed the ball in the U.S. and Israeli

courts, putting both the Clinton administration and the Rabin government to the test in order to reveal their readiness for a just peace.

Minister Summons Ambassadors Over Kuwait Death Sentences

JN1406112493 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1100 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Jordan says it is now holding contacts with a number of Arab and friendly states as well as the Arab League to approach Kuwait to cancel its decision to execute a number of Jordanian citizens living in the emirate.

A spokesman said that the minister of state for foreign affairs summoned a number of ambassadors accredited to Jordan and asked that their countries exert maximum efforts to save the lives of those people.

The spokesman added that the minister also asked Jordan's permanent representative at the Arab League to discuss the issue with the chief of the league who is now embarking on efforts to reconcile Arab states.

King Husayn Receives UAE Defense Minister 10 Jun

JN1106160193 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Jun 93

[Text] At the Royal Hashemite Court today, His Majesty King Husayn received His Highness Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Rashid Al Maktum, defense minister of the United Arab Emirates [UAE], who is visiting the kingdom to attend the celebrations by the one Jordanian family of the wedding of His Highness Prince 'Abdallah Bin-al-Husayn.

Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Rashid conveyed to His Majesty King Husayn the congratulations and greetings of Shaykh Maktum Bin-Rashid, UAE vice president and ruler of Dubayy, on this happy occasion.

His majesty asked His Highness Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Rashid to convey his thanks and appreciation to His Highness Shaykh Maktum. King Husayn expressed wishes for the continued good health and happiness of Shaykh Maktum and for more progress for the fraternal UAE people.

Prime Minister, Parliament Leaders Discuss Cooperation

JN1206205793 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Speaking after his visit today to the Parliament and meeting with Senate President Ahmad al-Lawzi and House of Representatives Speaker Dr. 'Abd-al-Latif 'Arabiyat, Prime Minister 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali said: We all in the executive and legislative branches seek to serve the homeland. Such meetings must be held between the two branches in order to make the picture clear for all.

Following his meeting with the prime minister, Senate President Ahmad al-Lawzi said: The two parties have stressed the importance of strengthening cooperation between the executive and legislative branches and respecting the Constitution and the independence of various branches. They also stressed the importance of enhancing the democratic march and adhering to its principles, taking into consideration the national, pan-Arab, and international role Jordan is playing in all fields.

For his part, after the meeting House of Representatives Speaker Dr. 'Abd-al-Latif 'Arabiyat said the three branches of power in Jordan are cooperating and independent of each other. Cooperation is the basis of the current government's action. We are in the same march. We will consult on everything of concern to the country and the executive and legislative branches. The legislative branch plays an effective role and has accomplished many things that strengthened confidence among citizens. All matters will be open for discussion, exchange of views, and joint action.

Asked if the elections law was discussed, 'Arabiyat said: This was one of the general topics discussed. We still have a House of Representatives, but it is now in recess. Anything legislative is in the heart of the House duties and the matter will be discussed between the two branches to agree on what will happen. This will take place through Constitutional channels. This agrees with the deputies' clear statement. Every branch is playing its role. A branch violating the others' power is out of question. There is cooperation among the branches and every one abides by the Constitution, the sovereignty of the three branches, and cooperation and coordination among them.

Dr. 'Arabiyat added that there is one common view of Jordan's role in the region, in addition to the distinguished role in democracy, liberties, and shura. All parties underscore this role. Thanks to this role, Jordan is distinguished in the region. He added that there will be no retreat from supporting this role.

He said King Husayn stressed that any change in the elections law will take place through cooperation and coordination with the concerned parties by entrenching all principles, as well as the concern of all parties to reinforce the ongoing process.

Buwayz on Libyan Remarks, U.S. Role in Talks

NC1206071393 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz has said that the news conference that the Libyan ambassador to Lebanon held violated diplomatic traditions and norms, because the Foreign Ministry should have been notified of it in advance. In a statement to our radio's "Official Talk" program yesterday, Buwayz said the news conference involved inaccuracies. He noted that the Libyan ambassador claimed that Lebanon was the only Arab state that denounced the Libyan pilgrimage to Jerusalem, although all Arab states have done that. [passage omitted]

Touching on the peace talks, the foreign minister remarked that the achieved results remain short of earlier expectations because of the impact left by the Israeli parliamentary elections and the U.S. presidential battle. He said that the U.S. Administration is trying to prove its international responsibility, having focused on domestic issues in the past few months.

Buwayz said that Rabin's government was elected to achieve peace. He added that this government has realized that the hesitation it had shown was not in its interest. He believes that the 10th round of peace talks will not be ordinary or empty, because its timing and the political conditions surrounding it will not allow this. He pointed out that no Arab party can monopolize the decisionmaking process. All tracks are interlinked; negotiations cannot make progress along one track without progress along the others, he said.

Buwayz believes that the U.S. Administration is now convinced that peace should make equal progress along all tracks simultaneously. He said that the 10th round will be distinctive, that the main framework of the Lebanese demands will materialize during it, and that the vague portions of the Israeli proposals will be clarified.

The foreign minister stressed the importance of the U.S. role in the peace process, particularly in giving the correct interpretation of and implementing the points agreed in Madrid as well as in monitoring the party that tries to evade the responsibilities entailed by that conference. He noted that the United States has not played its full role.

Minister Buwayz stressed the need for Israel to realize that it is no longer possible to maintain its rejectionist stand. He pointed out that it is clear to Israel that it has to withdraw from the Golan Heights and the Lebanese territories and that there is a Palestinian presence that should be recognized.

Buwayz Leaves for Vienna Human Rights Conference

NC1306134593 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1300 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz left for Vienna this afternoon to participate in an international conference on human rights slated to convene between 14-26 June. [passage omitted]

Buwayz made the following statement at the Beirut airport:

[Begin Buwayz recording] This conference will address human rights. Lebanon's role in human rights is longstanding. Since the Declaration of Human Rights and the establishment of the United Nations and other international societies involved in human rights, Lebanon has constantly played a basic role in this issue. On the subject of human rights, Lebanon is directly concerned with practices in south Lebanon, the condition of Lebanese detainees in Israeli jails, and actions in the occupied Palestinian territories. The Lebanese delegation has clear proposals to draw world public opinion to human rights in this part of the world. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Islamic Amal Leader Urges Fatwa on al-Qadhdhafi

NC1206192593 Beirut AL-DIYAR in Arabic 3 Jun 93 p 4

[Text] In his weekly Koranic seminar, Islamic Amal Movement leader Husayn al-Musawi called on Muslims "to reject the U.S.-Zionist tyranny." He said: "Those who forbade the procession of the disavowal of polytheists in holy Mecca are polytheists or agents of polytheists." He stressed "adherence to the line of Imam Khomeyni under his successor Khamene'i." He affirmed the "continuation of the endeavor to overthrow the agent regimes until the oppressed inherit the earth."

On al-Qadhdhafi, who committed aggression against the book of God, his messenger, and Imam Musa al-Sadr, al-Husayni said his sending Libyans to Jerusalem is "a dive into treason and an unprecedented act that no one, in the East or West, has committed before." He called for "issuing a fatwa to shed his blood, because his recent aggression makes him an apostate of Islam and puts him on an equal footing with the accursed apostate Salman Rushdie."

Al-Musawi called on the Muslims in Libya in particular and in Egypt and the Arab Maghreb in general to: "Overthrow the rulers installed by U.S. intelligence to wage a ferocious war against their peoples committed to Islam."

Editorial Discusses al-Qadhdhafi's 'Wrong' Calculations

NC1206115593 Beirut AL-NAHAR in Arabic 3 Jun 93 pp 1, 11

[Editorial by Sahar Ba'asiri: "The Wrong Calculations"]

[Text] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's calculations are wrong. No one has been impressed by his sending Libyan pilgrims to Jerusalem. He has failed to win the sympathy of the West, which is imposing a blockade on him. He has also failed to provoke a really angry reaction from the Arab regimes. All that he has managed to do is to record a new black page in the annals of Arab disarray. He has given a new example of an Arab leader's ability to offer concessions free of charge if he thinks they serve his interests.

Regardless of his justifications, al-Qadhdhafi's calculations are wrong, perhaps because he has forgotten that this is the age of obedience, and that his attempt to appease the West through this Jerusalem gesture is of no use because it is no longer astonishing. Perhaps he has also forgotten that this is the age of the decision of peace with Israel. This decision is much bigger than all the Arabs opposed to it, those who are pleased with it, and those who have hesitantly accepted it.

Before the pilgrims themselves decided to cut short their visit to Jerusalem, the West and all the Arabs had decided to contain it and attribute it to al-Qadhdhafi's eccentric behavior. The West's complete disregard for the visit has come as a proof to him that the blockade will continue and that his attempt to circumvent it is to no avail. The absence of Arab reaction has been proof to him that his attempt will not change anything in the political reality. This reality already changed when the Arabs adopted political pragmatism following the Gulf War and decided to make peace with Israel.

The peace process is larger than the rounds of negotiations and what they can or cannot achieve. It is a general state of affairs imposed by the West and accepted by the Arabs. Each party deals with this process from the angle of serving its interests and the major interests of its two cosponsors.

President Bill Clinton's administration has defined its interests in the Middle East: Free flow of oil at reasonable prices, and Israel's security, survival, and prosperity. These are not new interests. The previous U.S. Administrations worked for these interests. Their definition at present is just a repetition, and perhaps repetition will serve as a reminder to those who have forgotten or pretend to have forgotten.

The peace process is the means to secure these interests. The Arabs have accepted this process regardless of their stands toward Washington's interests. King Fahd affirmed his support for this process in his address to the pilgrims. The Gulf and the Arab Maghreb states support it. They joined the multilateral talks before knowing the outcome of the bilateral talks and the fate of the occupied Arab territories and the Palestinian issue.

The United States and the Arabs want this process to continue. They will not allow any factor to cause a change in it, such as al-Qadhdhafi's attempt to deal with Israel.

Regardless of the justifications, al-Qadhdhafi's calculations are wrong because they are based on a mistaken concept of political reality. However, they have not erred in deepening the great frustration that the Arabs feel toward their leaders and toward any hope that their identity will one day be respected.

'Fedayeen' Group Ambushes Israeli Border Guards

NC1206072193 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] A fedayeen group from the Palestinian Islamic Revolutionary Army for the Liberation of Palestine [al-Jaysh al-Thawri al-Islami Li Tahrir Filastin] has succeeded in breaking through the Zionist enemy and their agent's units in the occupied border strip. The group ambushed an Israeli border guard patrol in (Wadi al-Shaykh al-'Abad) and engaged it in a clash. The patrol brought in additional reinforcements.

The group promised the mujahidin of the intifadah in Palestine that it will keep up the course of armed struggle until all Palestine is liberated. It also promised the Islamic Resistance that it will continue the holy jihad.

Meanwhile, security sources in the south monitored Zionist military reinforcements at the occupation positions in al-'Ayshiyah, Kafr Huna, and 'Aramta in the wake of the recent resistance operation.

In another development, the enemy radio reported that explosions were heard last night in the northern parts of the Hebrew state when Katyushas fell in the region.

Resistance Attacks SLA Positions 12 Jun

NC1306081093 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Resistance fighters shelled two positions belonging to the agent Lahd's militia [South Lebanese Army, SLA] in Sujud and al-Rayhan in the central sector of the occupied border strip last night.

Reports from the south indicate that the occupation forces have been conducting extensive movements between Metulla and Qal'at al-Shaqif and along the road leading to Marj 'Uyun and the Kawkaba hills. They also reinforced their position in Tallat al-Ahmadiyah that overlooks al-Biqa' al-Gharbi with four new mechanized vehicles.

In another development, Zionist gunboats carried out maneuvers off the al-Naqurah coast.

Al-Hariri on Peace, Opposition, Corruption

NC1306184593 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1614 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Speech by Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri at a rally commemorating the 115th anniversary of the al-Maqasid Benevolent Society in Beirut—live]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Brothers and friends: The negotiations to end the Israeli occupation is not a matter that concerns the negotiators or officials alone. The rounds of negotiations you hear about are part of a comprehensive process that we are going through in solidarity and close cooperation with Syria, under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad [applause]. The process requires awareness on the part of all Lebanese, because it is part of a continuous struggle over Lebanon, its identity, system, and borders. If the past years have determined the course of this struggle, the current stage requires a higher level of national solidarity that rests on consolidating the march of internal accord and peace and accordingly, enhancing the state's image and providing the necessary elements of confidence toward that end. The settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict is one aspect of the conflict in the region. Thus, I find myself obliged to draw attention to this delicate and serious issue and to call for preparing our country to face greater challenges, whether a settlement is achieved or not.

Brothers: We are at the threshold of a new regional and international era, the requirements of which may compel us to go through a race involving all areas, be they political, economic, service, tourist, educational, or cultural. Therefore, what is required is to give real momentum to political life in Lebanon, activate the role of the state's institutions, consolidate the democratic, constitutional, and civil institutions, and rebuild the infrastructure, things that we believe are within the scope of our responsibility as a government and as people working in public life.

From this pulpit and on this day, which was preceded a few days ago by campaigns of political uproar, I would like to credit the government for signalling the start of political life and democratic debate that in recent months has reached the highest level in many years. I will not, brothers, go through what has been said against the government and its leader. We are in power, but we are faced with erroneous and arrogant internal policy that has imposed its will on the country for dozens of years. From our position in the government, we will continue to object to this conduct. Neither we nor the Lebanese will be sidetracked by the campaigns of those who have sunk into forgetfulness. Instead, we will try, with the vast majority of the people, to establish a new method that lays the foundation for an able state that we deserve as a people and as generations that refuse to be drawn behind the parades of losers. [applause]

We have said right from the beginning that everything inside the state has to be rebuilt, including the concept of the responsibility of public service, public interest, and the Lebanese people's interest, and that this will encompasss all sectors. Reconstruction means that we give and not take, to give honestly, freely, and without fear or exploitation. We do not claim that our achievements are perfect. We have the same observations that are voiced by citizens. But we, in any case, are working and will continue to work together for the sake of providing the best conditions for increasing confidence in the state and its establishments.

Briefly, we are shouldering the responsibility of establishing integrity and efficiency in places corrupted by others. We are wagering that integrity and efficiency will grow to spread to as many state sectors as possible. Only what is right will remain. There will be no place for anyone in this country except for those who prove their competence in life's process and progress.

Many achievements have been made. There are a lot of things that are on the way to being achieved. But there are still more things waiting to be achieved. The important thing is that we should not stop working, let despair seize us, or be affected by any form of political bankruptcy.

Brothers: There is much that I can tell you about. I have things to talk about, things like politics, administration, and services. I have things to say about corruption and corrupt people, about those who have forgotten all they have committed inside and outside the government. I have things to say about those who are hoping that the government and the state will collapse so that the state of chaos can arise again. We will put all this aside. We will let all these files remain closed because what the country needs is to open the files of work, the files of reconstruction and not those of destruction, the files that stabilize the situation and secure the firm bases for the state's safety, the foremost of which is the role of the Army and the internal security forces because there can be no progress without security stability. [applause] [passage omitted]

A social crisis is gripping the country. But there is also constant work to contain this crisis and alleviate its consequences. I am certain that the government's priority is to tackle the difficult living conditions resulting from the costs of education, medication, and life in general. [passage omitted]

Al-Shar' Says Previous Rounds of Talks 'Not in Vain'

JN1206164293 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' today said the Arab-Israeli peace talks, expected to reconvene in a 10th round in Washington on Tuesday, have not reached a deadlock, adding that the nine rounds of these talks were not in vain. In a statement issued in the Syrian newspapers this morning, al-Shar' stressed that the previous nine rounds of talks were not in vain despite the fact that they have not produced a decisive and essential outcome. He said that the Israelis have become fully convinced that they cannot achieve peace with Syria without complete withdrawal from the Golan Heights, which Israel occupied in 1967 and annexed in 1981. Al-Shar' added that this, in itself, is a great achievement for the Syrian delegation in Washington, because two years ago Israel considered the issue of the Golan to be nonnegotiable.

Al-Shar' said: We cannot say we have reached a deadlock. However, if Israel does not show a commitment to a complete withdrawal the discussion will be of no avail. Therefore, we expect America, which presented itself as a full partner, to play an effective role in finding a way out from this impasse.

Possible al-Shar', Shim'on Peres Meeting Denied

NC1306103493 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0839 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jun (MENA)—Nasir Qaddur, Syrian minister of state for foreign affairs, has denied reports about a possible meeting soon between Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and his Israeli counterpart Shim'on Peres and has said that these reports are absolutely incorrect.

In a statement to the newspaper AL-AHRAM AL-MASA'I published today, Qaddur affirmed that so far there is no intention to raise the level of the Syrian representation in the negotiations with Israel. He affirmed that although the peace talks have so far produced nothing, his country will continue its participation until a just peace is achieved or until an impasse is reached.

Qaddur warned that the failure of the Damascus Declaration will lead to negative results in the Gulf region. He pointed out that the Declaration is not just an economic agreement but a comprehensive agreement with political and economic dimensions. The cost of its implementation is not high; the cost of any weapons deal by any one Gulf state is higher, he said.

Regarding U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's pledge to representatives of Jewish organizations to work to end the Arab boycott of Israel and Kuwait's recent decision to end the boycott of companies dealing with Israel, the Syrian minister said that Christopher's statements clearly reflect Washington's bias in favor of Israel.

The Syrian official explained that his country rejects separate solutions and adheres to a comprehensive solution on all the tracks, particularly a solution of the Palestinian issue which is the basis of the conflict.

Radio Commentary Previews Next Round of Talks

JN1306161093 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1135 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: It may be premature to talk about the 10th round of peace talks which will start in Washington on 15 June. However, the general climate does not give the impression that this round will be any different from the past nine rounds. This is especially so if the Israeli stand remains unchanged and if the U.S. maintains the role it had in the ninth round. Israel did not offer anything to proves its seriousness in the negotiations and its commitment to the principles of the peace process. The Israeli negotiators continue to avoid discussing substantial issues and are focusing on marginal issues. The U.S. Administration, which, prior to the ninth round, promised to play the role of a full partner is not playing its role as required. Its role remains confined to that of an observer if not that of a party partial to Israel. The ninth round did not achieve the desired progress and the results expected by everyone, especially the Arabs who attend that round after receiving new U.S. reassurances and after Israel promised the U.S. side that the Israeli delegations would seek to achieve progress.

Today, on the eve of the 10th round, it seems that the situation is not any different from the last round. Despite that, the Arab side still announces its willingness to achieve a just and comprehensive peace based on the principles on which the Madrid conference was held; namely, relevant UN resolutions and the land-for-peace equation. The Arabs announced their commitment to these principles while this is not the case with the Israeli side which still adheres to its stand on all tracks. On the Syrian track, the Israelis are still focusing on a withdrawal within the Golan and not on a withdrawal from the Golan. As for the Palestinian track, Israel is still adhering to the same stand on the issue of administrative self-rule and continues to cling to Jerusalem. Meanwhile, on the Lebanese track, Israel is demanding a peace agreement similar to the 17 May agreement, and refuses to abide by UN Resolution 425 which stipulates its immediate withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

It is natural that these stands do not contribute to achieving peace. Indeed, they are considered real obstacles to the peace process. The United States, which declared itself a full partner in the peace process, should develop the role of a full partner in order to serve peace and remove obstacles which have been facing the peace process for more than one and a half years.

The Israelis' talk about the importance of peace cannot convince anyone as long as their behavior and the statements of their officials totally contradict such a peace. The U.S. talk about the role of a full partner remains void if it is not accompanied with positive and serious action to find a way out of the impasse which the peace process has reached.

The Arabs are not demanding President Clinton's administration to become partial to their side but to become partial to UN resolutions and the land-for-peace principle which the Americans themselves launched and declared a basis for the Madrid conference and the entire peace process.

The success of the 10th round depends on the required change in the Israeli stand and on translating the role of a full partner in a way that pushes the peace process forward. Otherwise, this round will not fare any better than the past rounds and peace will remain out of reach.

Iraq Opposition Aide's Talks With al-Asad Reported

PM1106165993 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 11 Jun 93 pp 1, 4

['Abdallah al-Dardari report: "Al-Asad Emphasizes Importance of Iraqi Opposition's Unification"]

[Excerpt] Damascus—Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad yesterday received Muhammad Baqir al-Hakim, head of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq [SAIRI], in the presence of Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam.

Al-Hakim is expected to hold more meetings in Damascus with Syrian officials and Iraqi opposition leaders of Kurdish, Islamic, and national factions to overcome the differences between the opposition organizations, especially regarding the results of the Salah al-Din conference and the emergence of the Unified Iraqi National Congress [UINC] as the main force enjoying Western support at the expense of the national and Islamic forces.

Syrian presidential spokesman Jubran Kuriyah said that President al-Asad's meeting with al-Hakim dealt with "the general situation in the region." SAIRI sources have told AL-HAYAH that the talks "were positive and covered the general situation in the region, the Iraqi issue, the Iraqi people's suffering, and the role of the regional states in easing that suffering." They added that emphasis was placed on "the unity of the Iraqi opposition without which the opposition cannot take serious steps toward overthrowing (President) Saddam Husayn's regime."

The sources denied that al-Hakim's talks covered the possibility of expanding the opposition's tripartite Presidential Council of Mas'ud Barzani, Major General Hasan al-Naqib, and Muhammad Bahr-al-'Ulum to include a representative of the national trend. They referred to meetings held with representatives of the national factions close to Damascus during al-Hakim's visit to the Syrian capital.

The meeting of the Iraqi opposition was one of the issues discussed by Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and Iranian officials in the margins of this week's Syrian-Iranian-Turkish ministerial meeting in Tehran on the situation in northern Iraq.

According to informed sources in Damascus, "Syria is in favor of the Iraqi opposition crystallizing a position that would safeguard Iraq's unity and sovereignty and revive its pan-Arab role without any foreign interference in its internal affairs. Syria strikes a balance between its desire to ease the burden of the economic sanctions on the Iraqi people and its interest in the Iraqi regime's compliance with the UN Security Council resolutions." [passage omitted]

Afghanistan

Rabbani, Hekmatyar, Sayaf Meeting Delayed by Shelling

LD1306150893 (Clandestine) Radio Message of Freedom in Pashto to Afghanistan 0900 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] A meeting among the prime minister, president, and Professor Sayaf has been postponed indefinitely. The Message of Freedom Radio and Television correspondent in Maidanshar reports:

[Unidentified correspondent] It was planned for esteemed Prime Minister Hekmatyar, esteemed President Borhanoddin Rabbani, and esteemed Professor Sayaf, leader of Ettehad-e Eslami [Islamic Union], to meet in the Arghande in west Kabul. But before they reached the appointed meeting site, six mortar shells were fired there from an unknown site. As a result this meeting was postponed. This meeting, which was considered useful for the implementation of Jalalabad accord, did not take place due to the shelling. The report adds that perpetrators of the firing have not yet been identified.

Dear Radio Message of Freedom listeners, we now draw your attention to a report that we received [words indistinct]. Talks between the prime minister, president, and the leader of Ettehad-e Eslami began today in Paghman. The Radio Message of Freedom correspondent reports that brother Hekmatyar, the prime minster of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, left at 0915 today, Maidanshar for Paghman District [words indistinct]. The correspondent also reports that esteemed Borhanoddin Rabbani arrived in Paghman at 1130 today, and talks started formally. [passage indistinct]

Rabbani, Hekmatyar Meet

BK1406004093 Hong Kong AFP in English 1733 GMT 13 Jun 93

[By Terence White]

[Text] Kabul, June 13 (AFP)—Afghan President Borhanoddin Rabbani met Prime Minister-designate Golboddin Hekmatyar west of Kabul late Sunday [13 June] for talks relating to the convening of the cabinet, a government spokesman said.

"The President and Prime Minister agreed upon the formation of a special commission which would decide how and when the Hekmatyar would come to Kabul," said a spokesman for the state news agency BAKHTAR.

No other details of the private talks—the first face to face meeting of Rabbani and Hekmatyar in 3 weeks—were disclosed, other than resolving the impasse over Hekmatyer's reluctance to come to Kabul to convene the first official meeting of the cabinet.

Rabbani and Hekmatyar head powewrful mojahedin factions whose fighting has reduced much of Kabul to rubble in the year since the mojahedin victory over the communists here.

The two men met at the district headquarters of Paghman, about 20 kilometres (12 miles) west of the capital, where Rabbani ally Rasul Sayyaf, leader of Ettehad-e Eslami [Islamic Union] mojahedin faction, has his base.

The meeting had been scheduled for Saturday but was postponed due to a six-round rocket barrage on Paghman, according to presidential spokesman Abdol Aziz Morad.

Morad suggested the rocket attack, in which two of Sayyaf's men were reported wounded, was an attempt by Hekmatyar's Shiite allies to sabotage the leaders' meeting.

The presidential spokesman said the agenda of the meeting was "to solve misunderstandings, dissolve mistrust, and to pave the way for the prime minister to begin his work" in Kabul.

Since the last mojahedin leaders' meeting in the eastern provincial capital Jalalabad ended three weeks ago, Hekmatyar has convened only one preliminary cabinet session—with limited attendance—at his Charasiab headquarters some 25 kilometres (15 miles) south of the capital.

Agreement on a cabinet was reached after Rabbani's strongman Defence Minister Ahmad Shah Mas'ud agreed to step down in favour of a nine-member joint-faction commission headed by Rabbani.

Hekmatyar also extracted the concession that he head a similar joint commission to run the Interior Ministry, which formerly was headed a member of Sayyaf's faction.

In the most recent internecine battle for the control of Kabul, in 10 days last May, Hekmatyar and Wahdat fought Masu'd's Defence Ministry forces backed by Sayyaf's Ettehad guerrillas. The battle ended in a stalemate and a tenuous ceasefire agreement.

For security reasons arising out of this and previous conflicts Hekmatyar has been reluctant to take up the traditional Prime Minister's seat of office in the city centre.

He has begun renovating a former south Kabul palace captured in the May fighting, as a temporary capital headquarters. However the move is seen by his opponents as non-compliance with the Jalalabad agreements, which call for Hekmatyar's cabinet to be convened in Kabul proper.

Presidential spokesman Morad said it was the general view of the government and the people that the premier should conduct his affairs from the prime minister's office in central Kabul.

"Most of the ministries and government organs exist not so far from the Prime Ministry. This would smooth the functioning of the governmwnt itself," Morad said.

A spokesman for Hekmatyar's Hezb-e Eslami [Islamic Party] faction acknowledged the problem, suggesting that the Darulaman Palace in south Kabul might be an interim location, before Hekmatyar moved to the city centre.

The Hezb-e Eslami is understood to be concerned about security along the route the Prime Minister-designate would have to travel to enter Kabul, and may ask Interior Ministry troops under Hekmatyar's command be put in place to provide protection along the way.

The route to Darulaman Palace is controlled mainly by Hezb-e Wahdat, and their replacement would need a concession from the Shiite leadership, whom observers say might be reluctant to comply, despite being Hekmatyar's allies.

Hezb-e Wahdat Launches Missile Attacks on Kabul

LD1006204493 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 10 Jun 93

[Text] The forces of Mazari's branch within Hezb-e Wahdat [Islamic Unity Party] resorted last night and today to a series of offensive against the military posts of the Islamic Army. An authoritative source in the Defense Ministry reported to a correspondent of BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY that, at a time when the Jalalabad accord is close to yielding results and the prime minister-designate and his cabinet are due to officially begin their work in Kabul city within a few days, the opportunists of Mazari's branch of Hezb-e Wahdat have resorted to a series of missile attacks and [word indistinct] on the residential areas. Last night they attacked a position of the Islamic Army during [word indistinct] and faced a heroic resistance by the units of the Islamic Army, and their offensive was foiled, and they were forced to retreat. The source added that the forces of the Islamic Army only responded to the fire of the attackers and did not take any offensive action.

The attackers, after their defeat and retreat, resorted to missile attacks on the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, 10th, and 11th wards of Kabul city. Two innocent compatriots were martyred and three injured last night as a result of fire of 35 missiles. Two houses also sustained damage.

Five Killed, 16 Injured

LD1106182693 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] Today five missiles were fired on Kabul city, and five of our innocent compatriots were martyred and 16 injured. A source in the general command of Kabul (?garrison) reported to a military correspondent of the BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY that the missiles were fired from a southwesterly direction and landed on the eleventh ward of the city, causing considerable financial damage.

BIA Commentator on Fighting

LD1206190293 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Last night and today 19 missiles were fired on a number of residential areas of Kabul city. Three Muslim and religious compatriots were martyred and 12 others were injured. A source at the Kabul garrison told the military section of BIA that the missiles were fired from the west and southwest and that they landed on the second, fourth, 10th, and 11th wards in residential and nonmilitary areas, causing considerable financial damage in addition to the loss of life. In connection with the continuous firing of missiles on residential areas, a BIA military commentator writes:

At a time and in a situation in which all the jehadi leaders have unanimously signed the Jalalabad accord, pledged to prevent the continuation of bloodshed and fratricide in the country, and join hands to establish peace, end hostility, and pave the way for the start of the work of the prime minister-designate and the new cabinet, the continuation of missile attacks on Kabul city does not have any justification.

In a situation in which all sides are calling for peace, the slaughter of innocent women, children, and men casts great doubt on the sincerity of certain groups which have signed Jalalabad accord. For example, as a result of the firing of 80 missiles on the residential areas of Kabul city during the last week, 25 of our Muslim compatriots were martyred and 82 others were injured.

The BIA political commentator believes that now that the Islamic State of Afghanistan has signed the Jalalabad accords with flexibility and self-sacrifice and that the prime minister-designate is preparing to arrive to Kabul to begin the practical and official work of the cabinet, one should not allow the rioters and irresponsible groups to threaten the peaceful life of the people of Kabul or to kill our Muslim people.

The continuation of such dastardly attacks will oblige the responsible authorities, especially those in the new cabinet, not to remain indifferent toward the continuation of missile attacks on Kabul city and to resort to serious and responsible measures. This by itself creates the need for the prime minister-designate to resume his work officially in the capital as soon as possible and to take responsibility for the executive affairs related to the cabinet.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Borujerdi Arrives

LD1106182493 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1530 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] A delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran led by Mr. Ala'eddin Borujerdi, deputy foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, arrived today to Kabul for a friendly visit. Esteemed Hamed Karzi, deputy foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, head of the second political section and acting head of protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Alawizada, charge d'affaires of the Iranian Embassy in Kabul, welcomed the delegation at Kabul international airport.

Received by Rabbani

LD1306081893 Tehran IRNA in English 0715 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Iran's Foreign Ministry envoy Ala'eddin Borujerdi here Saturday [12 June] conveyed a message by President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani to Afghan President Borhanoddin Rabbani.

Borujerdi who is in charge of the Asia-Pacific affairs of Iran's Foreign Ministry said to the Afghan president that the Islamic Republic looks forward to seeing that the internal strife between rival parties in Afghanistan is settled peacefully. He added the Islamic Republic is concerned about the instability in Afghanistan because neighboring countries, including Iran, are likely to suffer from the turmoil in that country.

The Afghan president said the concern as shown by the Iranian officials about the situation in Afghanistan is a token of their good will and their "brotherly and good neighborly feelings" about the people of Afghanistan.

Rabbani said extensive efforts are under way to return peace and tranquility to Kabul. Referring to the situation in Tajikistan, the Afghan president said that the Tajiks would do better to opt for a national reconciliation. He also expressed hope that Tajik refugees in Afghanistan would shortly return to their homeland. The Afghan president also expressed hope that the Iranian president would visit Kabul in near future.

Bangladesh

Finance Minister Explains Budget's Objectives

BK1106162693 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in English 1530 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] Finance Minister M. Saifur Rahman has said the new national budget has reflected the present government's thrust on increasing the level of investment and creation of employment opportunity through human resources development. He was addressing a crowded post-budget news conference at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhavan [Parliament House] in Dhaka this afternoon.

The finance minister said the economic reforms that have been initiated by this government, when it came to power two years ago, have begun to yield results. These reforms are designed for progress and we have to carry them forward in order to consolidate the gains.

Mr. Saifur Rahman categorically said that new budget contains a definite sense of direction and it is aimed at poverty alleviation through the generation of income and employment opportunity. He called upon all people irrespective of party affiliation for their active contribution in the participatory democracy to lift the whole nation from the abyss of poverty on to the road of prosperity.

The finance minister said about 3,000 crore taka have been earmarked for the education sector in the next year's budget. The whole nation must be involved for the qualitative improvement in the education sector and collective efforts must be taken. He said the government is introducing from the first of next month a program of food for education with a view to reducing drop-out rate at the primary level. Initially it will be started with about 100,000 metric tons of foodgrains. Besides, another two projects with some female scholarship programs of 150 crore taka covering 230 thanas [subdistricts] to ensure [word indistinct] of the girl students in completing their studies.

Replying to a question, Mr. Saifur Rahman said no withdrawal of subsidy has been proposed in the new budget. On the contrary, price of fertilizers has been proposed to be reduced by 500 taka per ton for the benefit of farmers.

In reply to another question, the finance minister said no new item will be included in the VAT [value added tax] network this year. Rather, efforts will be made where it would be curtailed or abolished.

In his opening remarks, Mr. Saifur Rahman expressed the satisfaction on the comments of the national press today regarding the budget presented by him in Parliament. Planning Minister A.M. Zahiruddin Khan and Information Minister Najmul Hudda also spoke at the gathering. Among others present at the news conference were State Minister for Finance Mujibur Rahman and secretaries of finance, planning and economic relations division, members of the Planning Commission, and the chairman of the National Board of Revenue.

State Minister for Establishment Resigns

BK1206162893 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in English 1530 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] State Minister for Establishment Nurul Huda has resigned from his office at the request of the prime minister. A spokesman of the prime minister's office said this in Dhaka today. State Minister for Law, Justice, and Parliamentary Affairs Barrister Aminul Haq has been given the portfolio of the state minister for establishment.

Police Use Batons To Disperse Ershad Supporters

BK1206144693 Hong Kong AFP in English 1438 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Dhaka, June 12 (AFP)—Police used batons to break up a protest march here Saturday [12 June] by supporters demanding the release from jail of deposed Bangladeshi president Hussain Mohammad Ershad, witnesses said.

It was not known if there were any injuries.

The police action came after some 400 protestors from Ershad's Jatiya Party (JP) entered the busy Motijheel commercial district and disrupted traffic, the witnesses said, adding that several protestors were beaten up after they threw firecrackers at police.

The protest came in response to a call by the JP for holding marches and rallies to protest the alleged government "repressesion" on Ershad, his wife Raushan Ershad and other party leaders and to demand the release of all political prisoners.

At a nearby road, some 25 women JP activists held a separate march but they melted away after police arrived, witnesses said.

Early this week, a special court convicted Ershad, his wife and several JP leaders and officials of graft and sentenced each of them to seven years in prison.

Ershad, 64, a former army general and Bangladesh's longest serving head of state, was already serving a 13-year term for graft and illegal possession of weapons. He came to power in a bloodless 1982 coup.

He stepped down in 1990 in the face of a popular uprising against his autocratic rule.

India

Forces on Full Alert on Kashmir-Pakistan Border

BK1206130193 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, the security forces will be put on full alert along the mountain passes in the border areas to prevent infiltration of militants from across the border. This was decided at a meeting of the State Security Board in Srinagar today. The governor, General K.V. Krishna Rao, presiding over the meeting said that efforts will be intensified to curb militancy and stimulate the people to participate in the political process.

Pakistan Said Pushing in Infiltrators

BK1406052293 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1615 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Pakistani troops opened fire across the Line of Control near Punch in Jammu and Kashmir in an abortive bid to push infiltrators into Indian territory. Indian troops returned fire and the exchange lasted for about half an hour. An official spokesman said that a similar infiltration attempt was foiled in the Kupwara sector yesterday. He said Pakistani troops in recent weeks have increased their efforts to push in infiltrators.

Meanwhile, reports have come in that there is a stepped-up campaign against the Indian security forces on the eve of the human rights conference in Geneva. Recently a Kashmiri youth had his toe chopped off.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified man, in Urdu] We went to Pakistan. It took us three to four days to cross the border. We, 10 to 12 people, were hungry and thirsty. When we reached that side, we were taken to a hospital where they made us unconcious. We were not aware of what they had talked to the doctors of the hospital. The doctors later gave injections and made us all—13 people— unconscious. Later, I saw that my toe was amputated. Please look at it sir. My leg has become bad. This boy, Khan, accompanying me, protested when he saw that my toe was amputated. We raised anti-Pakistan slogans there.

[Khan, in Urdu] They consulted the ISI [Interservices Intelligence, Pakistan's intelligence agency] before amputating his toe. After amputating his toe, they also prepared injections for me, but I fled. Three of us managed to escape.

[Man, in Urdu] The Pakistanis performed this surgical operation and took my photographs and sent them to foreign countries, claiming that they were seeking financial contributions from them because India had amputated my toe and forced me and others to seek refuge in Pakistan. [end recording]

Government Ready for Dialogue With Kashmiri Youths

BK1206044093 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] The minister of state for home, Mr. Rajesh Pilot, has said that the center is prepared to have a dialogue with the misguided youths in Jammu and Kashmir and will take all possible steps to rehabilitate them. He was addressing a public meeting at Haban in Sirmaur District of Himachal Pradesh to mark the golden jubilee celebrations of (Bajhota) firing episode. The incident took place in 1943 during the freedom struggle. Mr. Pilot said Pakistan is abetting terrorism in Kashmir by instigating the youths. He said terrorism has shattered the economy of the state and the people are facing hardships. Mr. Pilot said the people in Kashmir have now started realizing the danger of the designs of Pakistani agents.

Two Soldiers, 9 Others Killed in Kashmir Clashes

BK1306152093 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] In occupied Kashmir, 11 more people including two Indian soldiers have been killed in clashes between

mojahedin and Indian occupation forces at various places in the valley. According to KMS [KASHMIR MEDIA SERVICE], Indian troops during house-to-house searches in Srinagar mercilessly beat innocent people. Mojahedin in retaliation hurled grenade on the rampaging troops, killing two soldiers on the spot.

Further Deaths

BK1306161693 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] In Kashmir valley, 16 persons including 12 militants were killed in militancy-related violence during the last 24 hours. Security forces have arrested 20 militants and recovered nine AK-type rifles, two machine guns, and a large quantity of ammunition during search operations. The state director general of police, Mr. B.S. Bedi, said in Srinagar that five of the militants were killed in an encounter with the security forces in the 5 km border belt. These militants had infiltrated from across the Line of Control.

Large Seizure of Explosives, Arms in Punjab

BK1406053293 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1615 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] The Punjab police today seized yet another consignment of the deadly RDX explosives near Batala this morning. Police officials say the explosives and some arms and ammunition were recovered from a truck following an encounter with militants. They claimed it is the biggest seizure of explosives and weapons in Punjab in recent times. The consignment included 250 kg of RDX explosvies, 13 assault rifles, and 64 heavy duty grenades. The police said that acting on a tip-off, a roadblock was set up to stop a truck when the militants opened fire and one of them was killed in the encounter.

Bomb Explodes at Residence of BJP MP; 5 Injured

BK1306162293 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] In Madhya Pradesh, a bomb exploded this afternoon at the Tikamgarh residence of the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] MP Miss Uma Bharati. Our Bhopal correspondent quoting official sources reports: Five persons including a former state minister and a former MLA [member of the legislative assembly] were injured. Miss Uma Bharati was not present at the time of the incident. All the injured are reported to be out of danger. A special CID [Criminal Investigation Department] team has left for Tikamgarh for an on-the-spot investigation.

Hindu Group Workers Clash With Police in Kerala; 74 Hurt

BK1406032693 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] In Kerala, 32 policemen and 42 RSS [Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, National Volunteer Corps] workers were injured in group clashes and stone throwing in four districts yesterday. The clashes occurred when police prevented the RSS workers from taking out processions in defiance of prohibitory orders. The police had to open fire in the air to disperse an unruly mob pelting stones at the police in Wynad district. Police sources told our Trivandrum correspondent that they had rounded up about 14,000 RSS workers from different parts of the state.

Prime Minister Rao Leaves for Oman 14 Jun

BK1406033493 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] The prime minister left New Delhi this morning for a two-day official visit to Oman. Mr. Narasimha Rao is accompanied by a high-level delegation which includes the minister of state for external affairs, Mr. R.L. Bhatia; the minister of state for commerce, Mr. Kamaluddin Ahmed; and secretaries in the Ministries of External Affairs and Petroleum and Fertilizers. This is the first visit by the prime minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao, to a West Asian country. The visit aims at strengthening bilateral, economic, and commercial relations between the two countries.

Bangladesh Minister Reassures Rao on Refugees Issue

BK1206151093 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1430 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] India and Bangladesh have reaffirmed the commitment to resolve the Chakma [Chittagong Hill Tracts tribal] refugee problem amicably. The visiting Bangladesh foreign minister, Mr. Mustafizur Rahman, assured the prime minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao, in New Delhi today that his country has every intention to take back the refugees. He also stated that Bangladesh will make arrangements for their safe return. The prime minister reiterated that India will fully cooperate with Bangladesh in this matter. During the meeting, both sides agreed to consolidate the existing bilateral relations and to pursue all pending issues further. Mr. Rahman handed over to Mr. Narasimha Rao two communications from the Bangladesh premier, Mrs. Khaleda Zia.

The Bangladesh foreign minister also met the external affairs minister, Mr. Dinesh Singh, and discussed the economic cooperation and sharing of the river waters among other subjects.

Surface-to-Surface Missile Launch Successful

BK1206124993 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] The 11th launch of the surface-to-surface missile Prithvi was successfully carried out today somewhere on the eastern coast. According to a Defense Ministry spokesman in New Delhi, the missile blasted off at 1220 [0650 GMT] with its full user configuration in the operational mode before commencement of the user's

trial. The spokesman said today's flight accomplished all mission requirements. He said the launch was from the production batch and used a mobile launcher and the mobile control center.

SJP Expresses Willingness To Merge With Janata Dal

BK1206155693 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] The Samajwadi Janata Party [SJP] has called upon all secular and like-minded parties to come together on one platform to face the challenges of communalism. In a six-point resolution on the political situation, the party's national executive at its meeting in Haridwar today said the forces of separatism, communalism and terrorism are out to destroy the unity and secular fabric of the country and the need of the hour is to frustrate their evil designs.

Later, speaking to pressmen, the party general secretary, Mr. Digvijay Singh, said the SJP is ready to merge with the Janata Dal. The former prime minister, Mr. Chandra Shekhar, Mr. S.P. Malaviya, and Mr Yashwant Sinha, MP's, attended the meeting among others.

Iran

Reportage, Commentary on Presidential Elections

Big Election Turnout

NC1206174893 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0345 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Central News Unit research group commentary]

[Text] With polling in the sixth round of presidential elections nearly over, vote-counting has begun in 540 computerized centers and the results are expected to be announced soon.

The ever-present Iranian nation went to the polls yesterday morning and again displayed their loyalty to the Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeyni, may his soul be sanctified, and the great leader. The extensive turnout was enough to extend the voting hours in most provinces.

The popular response came while Western media propaganda stated that the turnout was not very strong. Since the victory of the Islamic revolution and since our divine system's true nature emerged, the powers of world arrogance have constantly sought to project a distorted image to people.

The propaganda by the powers of world arrogance has taken various forms. Once, it was stated that in Iran there is, allegedly, a pro- Western moderate group that calls for closeness with the West, unaware that the Iranian system and its divine principles opposed the powers of world arrogance and cannot be tarnished. On principle, there is no place for such issues in Iranian revolutionary society.

Western political analysts resorted to this mentality and imagined that in Iran there was a group that favored such deductions and, on this basis, they strove to ignite the fires of discord among the various strata of people and Iranian officials. These Western analysts believed that the people's feelings about the fate of the system and their participation in elections could be controlled by these miscellaneous factors.

When such analyses were proved wrong and the people showed they do not differ with officials over a struggle against the powers of world arrogance and preserving the revolutionary principles, the West's propaganda pointed fingers at the people of Iran and alleged that they were disenchanted with the Iranian system in general, that they are so embroiled in grappling with economic and social problems that support for the system means nothing to them.

The propaganda by foreign radios and the airing of various opinions by hostile circles at home and abroad are conspicuous examples of such thinking. This propaganda was motivated by a desire to show that the people play only a minimal role in deciding their fate and to downplay their hopes of improving their social and economic conditions as vague and hollow.

Since the combatant Iranian nation views participation in elections from a politico-religious viewpoint, the popular presence at the polling booths has reaffirmed that the Western and Eastern political analysts cannot fathom the ideals and aspirations of the revolutionary Iranian nation correctly. This nation is certainly not prepared to forget its fundamental aspirations.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Reelected

LD1306065693 Tehran IRNA in English 0630 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Tehran, June 13, IRNA—Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani was confirmed as the next president of the Islamic republic according to the latest results announced here this morning.

The presidential elections headquarters announced that the counting of boxes have been almost completed and that only 259 boxes are to be counted.

According to the headquarters the total number of boxes were 27,026 throughout the country, of which 26,767 had been counted until 7:00 hours local time (2:30 GMT) today.

Out of a total of 16,593,337 votes counted so far, President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani won 10,449,633, that is 63 percent of the votes.

Ahmad Tavakkoli ranked second with 3,972,201 votes, that is 24 percent of the total votes.

'Abdollah Jasbi obtained 1,511,574 votes and Rajabali Taheri 394,981, that is 9.1 percent and 2.4 percent of the total votes, respectively.

Interior Minister on Total Votes

LD1306171893 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Excerpt] After announcing the final results of the presidential election this afternoon, Interior Minister 'Abdollah Nuri declared: The total number of votes cast during the sixth presidential election was 16,788,246.

Offering congratulations to Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Mr. Nuri said: The Islamic Republic system is proud of the fact that the people took part in the elections freely. The results demonstrate the free political climate of the Islamic Republic, which does not interfere with the people's voting intentions. He added: In accordance with the law, the Guardian Council observers will investigate any possible violations and the results will be announced within the next 10 days at the latest. [passage omitted]

President Thanks Voters

LD1306120793 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Following the announcement of the final results of the presidential elections, a message from Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani paid tribute to the people for their extensive participation in the elections. We draw your attention to this message which is now ready for broadcasting:

[Begin Hashemi-Rafsanjani recording] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Thanks to God, and salutations to God's messenger and his scion. At the end of the elections, I consider it my duty to thank all those who in some way participated in these good, warm, and destiny-making elections. I thank the eminent leader of the revolution [Khamene'i]. With his guidelines, the elections moved along a proper path. I also thank the eminent scholars, in particular their eminences Golpaygani and Araki, and also all Islamic scholars, seminary instructors, clerics, university people—whether lecturers or students—educationalists in general, and finally the members of public who brought warmth to the elections with their good and enthusiastic participation, and voted in an effective and meaningful manner which determined the direction. I also thank the organizers, the Interior Ministry and the law enforcement forces, who succeeded very well in carrying out the elections in a healthy manner, and in accordance with the law. I also thank the esteemed Guardian Council who managed the affairs on time through its effective supervision.

Furthermore, I would like to thank the mass media, that is the Voice and Vision and the press, which during the last few months played an effective role in reflecting the realities and viewpoints, as well as in advising the people. All of these together managed to hold such a faultless election within a suitable time frame. I also sincerely thank those who voted for me and in particular gave me their trust. Also all the people who participated in the elections. Even those who voted for the other candidates are dear and honorable for me.

All the votes were within the context of the revolution. All the candidates were experienced, trusted, and revolutionary figures. No vote has gone to waste in this election, to whomever they might have been given. And to those who supported me during the campaign, I say I am not worthy. But giving thanks to the creation, like giving thanks giving to the creator, is a duty. The great clergy, the honorable hardworking workers, the honorable merchants and guilds, producers—both industrialists and farmers—university staff and students in particular who paid special attention to the elections and who worked hard to make the elections flourish, the great personalities who were kind enough to support me, individually or collectively, the political groups and currents which have been effectively in the mainstream of the revolution. I thank them all sincerely.

I believe the elections were extremely effective, vocal, and expressive. It was held at a critical juncture of the reconstruction period, at a time when our revolutionary movement in reconstruction is near its highest point, near the end of the pass. In other words, the great part of this difficult job has been done. It is now near the downturn, the easy road. And at this point the people's views are extremely valuable for me. While passing through this difficult period of economic adjustment and reconstruction, the people, two-thirds of them, approved the difficult path of adjustment and gave their approval to this program. This is definitely valuable for the people of the world and they see it as a measure of the development of our people. Such a program in any country, even those which have no foreign irritation, would create concern among the people or misguide them. Difficulties would deviate them. But we saw how our awakened people managed to keep their vote and continue their support—a significant majority of the people.

This is great capital on which I and my colleagues can continue, properly and without hesitation and without concern for difficulties, the path of reconstruction. God willing, at the end of the second development plan we shall hand you a developed, independent, progressive, and tranquil Iran. [end recording]

Majles Speaker Congratulates President

LD1306101893 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Excerpts] The Islamic Consultative Assembly [Majles] had an open session today chaired by Mr. Nateq-Nuri. In the session 175 Majles deputies signed a letter congratulating Mr. Hashemi- Rafsanjani's reelection as the president of our country. In the letter, the deputies considered Mr. Rafsanjani's election as an indication of the political maturity of the heroic nation of Iran, and

their gratefulness to his selfless endeavors. They expressed the hope that the president, with a stronger and more committed cabinet, will meet greater success than ever in advancing the economic, political, and cultural objectives of the system, and also in providing social justice, supporting the under-privileged as well as upholding Islamic values.

During the session, the Majles Speaker, Mr. Nateq-Nuri, made some remarks in the course of which he paid tribute to the people of our country for their active participation in the presidential elections. He further congratulated Mr. Rafsanjani's reelection to the post of Islamic Republic of Iran's president for another four-year term.

The head of the legislative power attached great importance to people's extensive participation in these elections, under the sensitive conditions present in the world, and at a juncture when economic regulation programs are being implemented in our country. He considered the people's reelection of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani as an indication of their deep awareness and insight. He expressed the hope that with the election of a president and affirmation of his responsibility, the second development plan would be compiled as comprehensively and fully as possible and then presented to the Majles. [passage omitted]

Yazdi Sends Congratulations

LD1306152793 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1430 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Yazdi, head of the judiciary, in a message congratulated the re-election of Hashemi-Rafsanjani as the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran and hoped for his success in properly taking forward the affairs and solving the problems of the country.

The message said in part: Thank God that under his divine blessing, and through their political awareness and knowledge, the awakened, selfless, and honorable people of Iran have once again elected your excellency to this post. Once again the capable child of the revolution and Imam Khomeyni stands as a powerful arm alongside the leadership supporting the divine system of the Guardianship of the Juriconsult and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

President Congratulated by Losers

LD1306205193 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1930 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Following Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani's victory in the presidential elections, Ahmad Tavakkoli, Abdollah Jasbi, and Rajab'ali Taheri, the other candidates in the sixth presidential elections, have congratulated him in separate messages. The messages describe the extensive participation of the noble people of Iran in the elections as a move toward safeguarding the system and values of the Islamic revolution in accordance with instructions of the esteemed leader, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i. The messages also wish success to Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani in his important post and in realizing the lofty aspirations of the Islamic Republic.

Opposition Leader: 'Political Scandal'

NC1406071893 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 0400 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Dr. Sanabarq Zahedi, a prominent Iranian opposition figure and the official in charge of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Arab Relations Department, said the results of the presidential election in Iran constitute a political scandal and disgrace Iran's history. He stated that the Iranian people boycotted the election; only 9 percent of Iranians voted.

Zahedi told our radio's central news department that Rafsanjani's victory does not mean any change in the terrorist, aggressive policy pursued by the Iranian regime. He said the Iranian people and opposition are certain the tyrant regime can only lead Iran to further poverty, hunger, and backwardness. He appealed to the Islamic countries and the Islamic Conference Organization not to cooperate with the Iranian regime, which trades in religion and hides behind false slogans.

The Iranian opposition leader called on the Arab countries to be alert to the schemes of hegemony drafted by Tehran's mullahs and exposed by Egypt, Algeria, and Tunisia. He said the Arab Gulf states should be more cautious in their relations with the Iranian regime, which covets the Gulf countries as shown by the hajj incidents in Saudi Arabia.

Mohtashemi Criticizes Elections

JN1206113193 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Interview with former Iranian Interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi by Radio Monte Carlo Tehran correspondent Muhammad Sadiq al-Husayni, carried on 11 June within the weekly program "The Event"; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Al-Husayni] Mr. 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, one of the hardline leaders in Iran, what is your assessment of the present presidential elections in Iran?

[Mohtashemi] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In my opinion, the elections do not represent a real competition between the candidates of the different political and intellectual persuasions. This is so because all the four candidates represent the same intellectual persuasion and the only difference that exists among them deals with the methods of action and procedures. Thus, Hashemi-Rafsanjani is the candidate whose success is guaranteed in advance without serious competition from anyone.

[Al-Husayni] If we ask who is Mohtashemi and where does he disagree with the actual political leadership ruling in Iran, what will you answer?

[Mohtashemi] I consider myself one of the sons of the Hezbollah Ummah in and outside Iran. I also feel that, in my present position, I am a mirror that reflects the hopes and aspirations of the Hezbollah Ummah. As for how I view the political leadership which is presently ruling Iran, I do not want to accuse it of having abandoned the principles of the Islamic Revolution. However, I disagree with the policies this leadership now adopts to tackle economic problems and deal with western countries because these policies are not in line with the yardsticks and values of the Islamic Revolution and the principles that were upheld by Imam Khomeyni, may God's peace and blessings be upon him.

[Al-Husayni] Do you expect any change at the end of Rafsanjani's second term in office, or do you have no hope that the political persuasion you represent will ever reassume power?

[Mohtashemi] No, personally, I have not lost hope in the future of the poltical system of the Islamic Republic because I believe that the policies of Shaykh Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the current president, have reached a dead end, particulary after it has become evident that the western powers did not interact and will not interact with the policies of Iran's current Islamic government. This will force President Hashemi-Rafsanjani and those in the government who work with him to change their policies. If the present government pursues its policies, which do not conform with the principles of the revolution, Iranian Muslims will once again return to the political arena through their revolutionary emblems and figures within the framework of the legislative elections.

Attacks During Election Reported

NC1206162593 (Clandestine) Voice of Mojahed in Persian 1800 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] At the same time as the election puppet show rigged up by the clerical regime [words indistinct], 100 explosions took place in the centers of repression of the destructive enemy, destroying regime command centers. Extensive propaganda activity disrupted the farcical election display staged by the regime.

This series of daring actions named after the martyred mojahed Gholam Hoseyn Fazeli killed over 200 lackeys and Revolution Guards of the antihuman enemy.

The Western district of the Abadan refinery saw 16 explosions and [words indistinct] and was destroyed.

The command base of the 3d Brigade of the Revolution Guards, the Fajr battalion base, and a regime Law Enforcement Forces base were destroyed and dozens of Guards and some of their brutal commanders were killed.

One base of Battalion 21 named after Imam Reza in Hoseynieh between Khorramshahr and (Hawad) was subjected to a violent attack by the combatant lions of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization (MKO). At least 30 brutal Guards were killed and some military vehicles were destroyed.

In a string of planting bombs and mines and laying booby-traps against the lackeys of Brigade Number One of the Armed Forces Company [words indistinct due to heavy jamming], (?many) enemy agents were killed and some enemy armored carriers were destroyed.

In 15 incidents involving bombs and mines and booby-traps in the centers of the Revolution Guards bases and the enemy's Law Enforcement Forces bases in the south of Gilan-e Gharb, 25 Guards and Law Enforcement Forces agents were killed and their vehicles destroyed.

In an extensive spree of bomb planting at centers and bases and in the path of the Guards and the mercenaries of the regime's 81st Battalion in the military district of Dar Balut in Gilan-e Gharb, over 30 Revolution Guards and regime agents were killed.

In explosions on the military highway that ends at the center of the base at Tupkhaneh, in the (Sarneh) district of Ilam province, some enemy armored vehicles were destroyed and over 10 lackeys were killed.

The residence of a tyrant in the Kuchek Sera district of Qa'emshahr was attacked and demolished.

Two criminal Revolution Guards in Ahangar Kolah-Bish-e Sar in Qa'emshahr were punished and their homes destroyed.

The center for repression and corruption, named the Headquarters for Combating Social Ills, in Hamzeh Kolah in Babol was set ablaze.

The MKO combatants in the towns of Qa'emshahr, Juybar Esfahan, Gorgan, Mashhad, and Orumiyeh attacked and destroyed centers and vehicles belonging to the tyrannical organizations of the antihuman enemy.

All Revolution Guards and agents of the regime who resist the tyranny-destroying conflagration of the National Liberation Army [NLA] are warned that the flaming storm of the people's fury will not rest until it has wiped out the last foundation stones of the structure of the tyranny and repression of Khomeyni! The flames that flicker from the weapons of the lionhearted combatants of the NLA (?manifest) the fiery wrath of God. Woe to those who cross its path.

Papers Assess Turnout

NC1406104093 Paris AFP in English 0812 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Tehran, June 14 (AFP)—The surprise support for an Islamic conservative in the Iranian election serves as a warning for President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani

to stem corruption and inefficiency in his government, the semi-official TEHRAN TIMES said Monday.

The strong runner-up, Islamic conservative and former labour minister Ahmad Tavakkoli, won 24 percent (four million votes) in Friday's election and even beat Rafsanjani in the northwestern province of Iranian Kordestan.

"What attracted ... [ellipsis as received] the voters to Tavakkoli was his strong criticism of the financial corruption and the inefficiency of the present bureaucracy," the English-language TEHRAN TIMES said.

"This could indeed be a warning for the future government of President Rafsanjani," it said. "The success of Ahmad Tavakkoli in the runner-up position was totally unexpected."

SALAM newspaper, which opposes Rafsanjani's market reform programme and open-door policies, accused the president's camp of conducting a one-sided campaign.

"The restrictions placed on his rivals, including censorship of their speeches and high publicity for the president, were examples of the one-sided election campaign," the daily said.

SALAM charged the "biased campaign" had caused the sharp fall in turnout since the last presidential election of July 1989. It also questioned the official electorate figure of 29 million, putting it instead at 33 million.

But HAMSHAHRI newspaper, managed by Tehran's Mayor Gholam-Hoseyn Karbaschi, argued the low turnout (16.8 million voters) of around 56 percent was not because of a decline in Rafsanjani's popularity.

It was in protest at "officials who shirked their responsibilities."

Rafsanjani won 63 percent (10.6 million votes) compared to 90 percent in the last election, when almost 70 percent voted. The percentage of void ballots was 2.2, the newspapers said, a day after the results were announced.

Habibi: Elections in 'Sound' Atmosphere

LD1406111793 Tehran IRNA in English 0725 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Tehran, June 14, IRNA—Government spokesman Hasan Habibi said at the end of the cabinet session here Sunday that the 6th presidential election was held in a "sound" atmosphere.

Praising the nation for their massive turn-out in the elections, Habibi who is also the first vice-president, said despite the propaganda attempts of the foreign media as well as the domestic opposition, a very large number of votes were cast.

Nearly 17 million out of some 29 million eligible voters participated in the elections last Friday with incumbent President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani winning a landslide victory and re-elected for a 2nd four-year term.

Habibi also thanked the Interior Ministry, the Council of Guardians and all other organizations and bodies involved in holding the elections.

Al-Asad Sends Congratulations

LD1306172293 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria, sent a message to Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani today, congratulating his excellency for being re-elected as the Islamic president of Iran. According to a SANA report, in this message Hafiz al-Asad expressed the hope that friendship between the two nations of Iran and Syria will be everlasting.

'Social Justice' Not Fully Realized

NC1006120493 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 7 Jun 93 p 2

[Editorial: "Dispensing Social Justice"]

[Text] During the last four years of his tenure in the presidential office, Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani has probably talked about the concept of "social justice" more than any other topic. The discussion of social justice has been also among the most important topics of the Friday prayers sermons by the president as well as other speakers. Social justice, or its materialization in Iran on a wide basis, is in fact one of the centerpieces of the Islamic Revolution.

But after the passage of four years since President Rafsanjani came to office, this most sought-after goal of the Islamic Republic has not been fully realized. And the next president, be it Mr. Rafsanjani or another of the candidates, needs to pay renewed attention to it.

Many of the government or government-controlled organs which work directly or indirectly with the president might be the reason for the partial success of this goal.

During the last four years or so most government organizations have tried to secure progressively bigger shares of their budgets through providing social "services". The obtainment of budgets by these organs has not been done within the framework of a coordinated policy through the supervision or control of the president's office, the Plan and Budget Organization or other similar organizations such as the Supreme Economic Council.

The decision by these organizations taken autonomously about the prices of the services they supposedly provide the public with, are often based on the opinion or the choice of their directors. And the problems arise when someone refers to them for their services. The absence of coordination causes a citizen from Tehran for instance,

to face difficult and sometimes contradictory policies in his efforts to receive a service given in the name of the government.

The Tehran Municipality is a case in point. It has got much more income than it knows how to spend. It wastes a good deal of its income by building, tearing down and building again—such as the road medians separating the bus lanes. Nothing is more torturous than seeing the municipality run an experiment lab with the government's scarce resources.

The services the municipality provides are both expensive and not open to negotiation. The Tehran Municipality has enough money to help other resources starved organizations if it so decides.

Based on the information published by the Education Ministry, hundreds of thousands of students are deprived of education because of the lack of "educational space"—schools and classrooms, that is. A kid out of school, left on the street, would hardly know how to take healthy advantage of the municipality's "beautified" city or its modern parks. And once he gets to a park, he would be more inclined to vandalism rather than using it beneficially. The point is that the need for mental enrichment is just as important as physical enrichment.

Whoever becomes the Islamic Republic's next president will have to give more time and attention to the operation of government organizations and what they do in its name. The activities of the government organizations should be coordinated and their incomes and how they spend them controlled, so as to make sure that distribution is done in the best interests of the people, specially the deprived ones.

Playing in the park becomes meaningful to a kid when there are adequate schools and classrooms. If the activities of its various organizations are coordinated, the government would have an easier time dispensing social justice.

Majles Bill Prohibits 'Commissions' for Officials

NC1006195493 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 26 May 93 p 2

[Editorial: "Revolutionary Legislation and Need for Correct Enforcement"]

[Text] The Islamic Consultative Assembly (Majles) passed a bill which prohibits the receipt of any kind of "commissions" from foreign companies by officials of the government organizations and the municipalities in the form of percentage of the value of transactions concluded with those companies or in any other form.

All such commissions received since 1979 are to be returned to the national treasury, and henceforward the transgressors will be condemned to prison terms of 2 to 5 years.

The recent measure by the Islamic Consultative Assembly is a laudable and certainly very necessary decision but two problems have to be pointed out in connection with the law.

Firstly, the law has been laid down far too late—14 years after the revolution, almost equal to the useful life of one generation of managers. Thus it is doubtful that the beneficial effect of the law will be manifesting itself very soon.

In fact the great powers, especially the multi-national corporations have been using the payment of "commission" as a means of corrupting the "economic and managerial elite" in the Third World countries and even in some of the industrially advanced countries, and unfortunately they have been very successful.

Fighting such a long-standing evil after such a long delay is not going to be a very easy job.

Another shortcoming, or rather objection to the law concerns its mechanism of enforcement. If the people's elected representatives in the Islamic Consultative Assembly fail to create a strong inhibitive mechanism, then an ineffectual law will only make things worse than they are. Consequent it will be up to the judiciary branch to come forward with suitable proposals and to press for suitable legislation to ensure that all channels of temptation are barred.

As it is, to retrieve the huge sums that have been received as commissions in connection with the purchases of arms or other necessary and basic commodities during the years of war and since then, will be indeed a mighty task.

These sums rightly belong to the national treasury, and all information and security organizations in the country will have to cooperate closely with the judiciary officials in this connection.

The successful implementation of this revolutionary law will indeed be a great achievement for the country.

Mojahedin-e Khalq Claims Attack on Oil Refinery

NC1106105993 Paris AFP in English 1038 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] Nicosia, June 11 (AFP)—Iranian rebels blew up installations Friday at a huge oil refinery in the western city of Abadan and killed or wounded dozens of revolutionary guards, the People's Mojahedin [Mojahedin-e Khalq] opposition group said.

Guerrillas set off a series of 16 explosions at the refinery, one of the biggest in the world, and attacked two battalions of the guards, a statement said.

The strikes coincided with the presidential election which the group has called on Iranians to boycott.

The Iranian Government cut off Abadan's telephone links with the outside world following the attack, the statement said.

The blasts "demolished" installations in the western section of the refinery and were heard through Abadan, which lies near the Iraqi border.

Rebels carried out a series of other attacks, killing or wounding more than 100 members of the Iranian security forces, the organisation said.

President Urges Negotiations in Afghanistan

LD1206180193 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] A verbal message from President Hashemi-Rafsanjani was conveyed to Afghan President Rabbani by Mr. Borujerdi, deputy foreign minister for Asia and Oceania, in the course of a meeting today.

In the meeting, our country's deputy foreign minister for Asia and Oceania spoke of the need to establish peace and stability in Afghanistan and said: The Islamic Republic of Iran is of the opinion that the people and officials of Afghanistan must solve their problems by means of negotiation.

Mr. Rabbani, for his part, expressed gratitude for Mr. Hashemi- Rafsanjani's verbal message, and, referring to the recent developments in his country, said: Extensive efforts are under way to restore lasting peace in Kabul as soon as possible.

Radio Commentary Views Western Propaganda

LD1206140193 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1003 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Shortly before the presidential elections a major propaganda wave became apparent in the Western media, parallel with that of the Monafeqin [hypocrites—Mojahedin-e Khalq] and counter-revolutionary mini-groups, suggesting that the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran lacks popular support, and that the election turnout would be very low because of the Iranian people's entanglement in economic and social problems. That was while a number of media organizations belonging to counter-revolutionary groups did not even even deem it necessary to ban participation in the elections, under the impression that Iranian people would refrain from taking part in the elections, of their own free will. The people of Islamic Iran, however, had enthusiastically and hopefully been to the polls five times before this occasion, in order to elect a president for their country and hence determine their own destiny, and this time, too, they participated in the elections, in spite of much Western propaganda sensationalism and the ban imposed by counter-revolutionary groups affiliated to global arrogance on participation in the elections.

The alert and aware Iranian people have hitherto shown their solid presence in various arenas, as well as their all-out support for the system's officials; their presence becomes more united whenever they sense threats against Islam and the revolution. Today, the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran enjoys more stability than ever before. For this reason, the enemies of Islam and the system feared that a considerable number of Islamic Iranian people would go to the ballot boxes—in spite of the fact that the system has been enjoying stability and as a result has no need for people's all-out presence on the scene—and elect their future president by casting a huge number of votes. Nevertheless, would it not be better if the Western world, spearheaded by America, gave up its adverse and futile propaganda against the popular system of the Islamic Republic?

It seems that the announcement of Iran's sixth presidential election results could provide the Western world, and especially the ruling administration in America, with the perfect opportunity to review their views, and respect the votes of a people who have constantly declared their support for the Iranian authorities by virtue of their presence in all spheres, hence disappointing the enemies of the system on several occasions. The evidence, however, indicates that the ruling administration in America, led by Bill Clinton, has not adopted a realistic policy with regard to the Islamic Republic of Iran. Since coming to power, the ruling Democrat administration in America has not stopped short of any efforts to undermine Iran. At present it has become particularly active in isolating the Islamic Republic of Iran in the international scene. Today, America attempts to discourage its allies from granting loans and selling weapons to Iran, and also from making investments in our country. Previously, their role had consisted of forcing an eight-year war on our country, imposing economic sanctions against it, mobilizing the aggressor country, and creating tension in the region. Notwithstanding their massive efforts against the interests of the system and people of the Islamic Republic—hence constant efforts to hamper Iran's progress and development—how do they expect to change the votes of a people devoted to the aspirations of the revolution and their officials, by launching adverse propaganda against the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran?

U.S. Trying To Harm Iranian-European Relations

NC1206170693 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0350 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Central News Unit Research Group commentary]

[Text] For some time the United States—by coordinated efforts with its allies—has been trying to create conditions to mar relations between Iran and Europe and to isolate Iran politically.

The United States' latest attempts in this respect include the actions of the Clinton administration's Secretary of State Warren Christopher during his meeting with the EC foreign ministers. He asked them to limit their relations with Iran. Christopher asked the European Community to refrain from the unconditional sale of technology to Iran and claimed that Iran would utilize this technology to build its military strength.

Two weeks ago, Christopher announced that Iran deserves international political isolation. He called on Europe to take steps to isolate Iran. In response, Iran's Foreign Minister Dr. Velayati described the U.S. secretary of state's allegations as extorting independent governments and declared that Iran's relations with other countries are based on reciprocal and common interests. He said countries cannot ignore their own interests and succumb to U.S. extortion.

On every such occasion, the United States seeks to propound its policy of trying to isolate Iran with pretexts such as combating terrorism and preventing Iran from accessing weapons of mass destruction. The question arises: Is the United States trying to have these pretexts materialize or is it merely using them to justify its own policies and distort others' image?

As for Iran, a glance at U.S. stances after the victory of the Islamic revolution indicates that these are all mere pretexts and the United States is only striving for its own interests under these guises. The current U.S. approach to Iran can be viewed from two aspects: first, U.S. hostility toward Islamic Iran, which began immediately after the victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran and was followed by an end to U.S. influence in Iran. This revolution resulted in the U.S. policy of seriously pressuring Iran to retrieve its lost interests.

Second, the Persian Gulf region, which various countries, especially Europe, afforded a special place in their policies, assumed new importance against the backdrop of a new set of international circumstances and so increased U.S. sensitivity in this respect.

In the circumstances, the United States seeks a strong foothold in the Persian Gulf region and the edge over its regional competitors. From the U.S. vantage point, such a policy can impose U.S. control on Europe, which has emerged as a rival to the United States.

On this basis, the White House seeks to impair EC relations with Persian Gulf countries. In this setup, Iran has special status, as it is considered a powerful country in the Persian Gulf region. Countries can benefit from relations with Iran based on reciprocal and joint ties.

The continuing inimical U.S. approach to Iran has hindered better Iranian relations with other countries and created a situation that is very significant for Europe. In such circumstances, Iran and Europe can establish suitable relations and access their reciprocal and common interests. In view of U.S. animosity toward Iran, and its efforts to keep Europe away from the Persian Gulf region is in conflict with U.S. policy. [as heard] This is why the United States seeks to deal a blow to Iranian-European relations.

U.S. Policy, Behavior Criticized

NC1206124193 Tehran SALAM in Persian 2 Jun 93 p 16

[M. Parhizgar commentary: "The Myth of Iran's Isolation or the Destabilization of the Region?"]

[Excerpts] The CNN interview with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher took place at a time when the U.S. press, television networks, organizations, and institutions were disseminating articles and reports about, and had a few months earlier initiated extensive hostile activities against, the Islamic Republic of Iran. For example, on 2 April, the U.S. press carried 24 articles on the subject of Islamic fundamentalism, the nuclearization of Iran, Iran's access to strategic missiles, Iran's support of international terrorism, Iran's disruption of the peace talks, etc.

This trend was initiated in February 1993, and U.S. correspondents and journalists published various articles on the aforementioned issues, each with different headlines that were such that the public's sensitivity regarding Iran would be further inflamed. Unfortunately, the seminar at Rutgers University in the United States and the need to stress this current trend as presented by the strategists, pragmatists [preceding word in English], and optimists was forgotten.

The efforts by the Iranian opposition and the Zionist lobbies on the U.S. need to exert pressure on Iran were placed on agendas of the White House, the National Security Council, and the U.S. State Department. Ever since then, diplomatic warnings, extensive propaganda, and multilateral restrictions have served to heighten the existing differences over U.S.-Iranian relations and have accelerated the anti-Iranian propaganda disseminated by the above groups.

When Clinton and Christopher entered the White House they had expressed optimism regarding the future of relations between Iran and the United States, but the present perplexity that seems to reign over the policymaking and decisionmaking centers of the United States on the different directions of their policies toward Iran has thwarted their efforts to adopt a realistic and principled policy. All the propaganda and articles have been presented in such a way that they have once again resuscitated the U.S. revengeful and violent policies in the Persian Gulf.

The implementation of such policies are part of the perception of the region in the United States, and the fallout of this will result in the exacerbation of regional hostilities. Peripherally, U.S. militarism—as an effective institution in foreign policy—will be able to boost its interests by the sale of arms and military equipment to the regional countries. However, eventually a situation

will be created that will threaten the peace and stability of the region—which is considered one of the vital and sensitive areas for the United States—as a result of regional instability in the Persian Gulf.

The current U.S. policies in its approach to Iran are obvious in the recent interview of the U.S. Secretary of State, and they indicate the adoption of what is considered the traditional approach in the history of U.S. foreign policy. [passage omitted]

The policies of restricting, isolating, and undermining Iran by using various mechanisms such as the group of industrial countries known as the G-7 requires complete concord and cooperation among the groups members. One may stress that the interests of Europe and Japan in the Persian Gulf region will be quite different from those of the United States in their approach to Iran. In one or two cases they have approved restrictions against Iran, but the results of such a policy will remain quite ambiguous and incomprehensible for them, and as a result they will not be able to continue such a policy in a historical [tarikhi] manner.

Iran has repeatedly proven that in an atmosphere of peace, understanding, and mutual optimism in a such way that there is no disruption of reciprocal national interests, it will be responsible and answerable for all kinds of misinterpretations. [sentence as published]. However, the threats by Warren Christopher and the current U.S. attitude in its approach to Iran will only culminate in a deterioration of relations and a proliferation of anti-American sentiment in Iran as Iranians have extremely bitter historical memories of U.S. intervention in their country. [passage omitted]

Ministry Reaffirms Claim on Persian Gulf Islands

LD1406081493 Tehran IRNA in English 0755 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Tehran, June 14, IRNA—The Foreign Ministry Monday reiterated Iran's sovereignty over the three Persian Gulf islands of Abu Musa, and the Greater and Lesser Tunbs.

This came following Sunday's meeting of the eight Arab member states of the Damscus Declaration held in Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates in which they called for improvement of relations with Iran.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman Mortreza Sarmadi welcomed the stance taken by the '6+2' confab on expansion of ties and cooperation with Iran.

Turning to the joint statement issued at the end of last month's visit to the UAE of Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Sarmadi said, "Continuation of mutual talks without the interference of others was the only realistic way to settle certain differences of views and misunderstandings."

The eight members of the Damascus Declaration in a joint press statement at the end of their two-day meeting in Abu Dhabi said that Islamic brotherhood necessitated promotion of ties with Iran.

"The ministers followed with interest the wish of the two countries (UAE and Iran) to hold more negotiations to resolve their problem."

Rebel Radio Views Tripartite Meeting in Tehran

NC1006160093 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Persian 1730 GMT 9 Jun 93

[Unattributed commentary: "Sympathizing With Iraq or Plotting Against the Kurdish People?"]

[Text] News agencies reported that on 7 June, the foreign ministers of Turkey, Iran, and Syria met in Tehran to discuss the situation in Iraq and in Iraqi Kurdistan. But this is not the three foreign ministers' first such meeting. On 14 November 1992, they met in Ankara to discuss the same issues and in February 1993, they met in Damascus for the same purpose. So the Tehran meeting was their third on Iraq and Iraqi Kurdistan.

At each meeting, they express their apparent concern over the dismemberment of Iraq, yet they have not allowed the Iraqi government or representatives of the Iraqi opposition or Kurdish movement in Iraqi Kurdistan to participate in these meetings.

Apparently, the three's objective is to achieve a common stance on the possible dismemberment of Iraq. These three countries have long paid lip service to Iraq's integrity and shed crocodile tears for Iraq without any proof of its dismemberment and without anyone propounding the issue. This when both Turkey and Iran each covet part of Iraqi territory, while Syria too has a history of overt hostility against Iraq.

The truth is something else and the cause of these three countries' concern and fear is not the threat of Iraq's dismemberment, but the situation in Iraqi Kurdistan and the evolution of the justice-seeking struggles by the Kurdish people elsewhere in Kurdistan.

Turkey, Syria, and Iran see no expansion of nationalistic thought or increase in national feeling among the Kurds in these three countries (?stemming) from the evolution of democracy or the Kurdish people's nationalistic feelings in these three countries. They think the reality stems from the situation in Iraqi Kurdistan. So, the Kurdish problem in general and the situation in Iraqi Kurdistan in particular have become a common problem for the three countries.

Iran, Turkey, and Syria each rule part of Kurdistan and the Kurdish people in every area of Kurdistan are struggling for their national rights. Fulfilling the Kurdish people's wants anywhere in Kurdistan is not in the interests of any of the three, each of which dominates a part of Kurdistan. Behind the crocodile tears one can see the worried and fearful eyes of all three over the Kurdish problem.

The Islamic Republic, which for 13 years has suppressed the people of Kordestan in their desire for autonomy, cannot be happy about the situation of the Iraqi Kurds. This regime's provocations and plots against the situation in Iraqi Kurdistan during the past two years, its aggression against border areas in Iraqi Kurdistan, its violation of the area's airspace, and its shelling of reconstructed villages in the border areas of Iraqi Kurdistan are all clear proof of this reality.

Iran has a bone to pick with Turkey because it let the United States and its allies use its military bases to protect the Iraqi Kurds. The Turkish Government, which denied the existence of millions of Kurds in eastern Turkey for many years, has taken no serious step to fulfill the national rights of the Kurds in Turkey, even though domestic problems and pressures from its Western allies forced it to admit the existence of Kurds in Turkey. Although the Kurdish people in Turkey recently expressed their readiness for a peaceful solution of the Kurdish problem and talks with the Turkish authority, Turkey remains determined to continue its illogical policies on the Turkish Kurds. This is a factor for more pressure (?on it).

Not only has Syria refused to admit the national rights of the Kurds, but it is also trying to destroy their national identity and has constantly resorted to a violent policy against the Kurds.

The long-lasting hostility of Iran, Turkey, and Syria against the Kurdish people elsewhere in Kurdistan leaves no room for doubt that the meetings in Ankara, Damascus, and Tehran were mostly geared to studying ways to confront the situation in Iraqi Kurdistan and to choosing ways to firmly suppress the Kurdish people elsewhere in Kurdistan rather then being exchanges of views on the general situation in Iraq.

Although global conditions have changed and the attention paid to the Kurdish people has increased and these factors reduce the possibility of a common plot against the movement of Kurds in Kurdistan to some extent, the Kurds have the right to feel concerned about the secret plots being hatched by these three countries against them, especially when it seems these meetings and plots will continue. Of course, it should also be noted that the United States and its allies have been expressing their concern over these meetings for some time.

There is no doubt that any common step by these three countries to suppress the Kurdish people will get a reaction from the Kurds, the world, and the friends of the Kurdish people. Hasn't the time come for the countries ruling Kurdistan to find a peaceful and just solution instead of plotting against the justice-seeking movement of the Kurdish people?

Iranian, Russian, Turkish Stances on Caucasus Viewed

NC1006191893 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES INTERNATIONAL WEEKLY in English 27 May 93 p 2

[Editorial: "Commitment To Bring Peace, Not To Prolong Bloodshed"]

[Text] Panakh Guseynov, Prime Minister of the Azerbaijan Republic, declared that there was no truth to the claim that the Islamic Republic of Iran was giving military assistance to the Republic of Armenia.

Guseynov, who is on an official visit in London, said during a lecture at the London Institute of the International Relations, "The remarks by Asim Mollazade, Azerbaijan's Presidential Advisor, that Iran was providing military aid to Armenia are Mollazade's personal views".

Ironically the statement by Guseynov in response to the rumors of Iran's provision of military aid to Armenia, is coincident with the spread of the opposite rumors in the Armenian capital.

In fact the rumors to the effect that Iran was providing military aid to Azerbaijan was so widespread in Yerevan, that the Iranian Embassy in Armenia had to officially deny the provision of any military support to Azerbaijan.

But from where do such rumors stem?

Since the outbreak of the war in Karabakh in 1988, Iran firmly and officially declared that it was a futile military engagement, and that it could only result in an atmosphere of instability in the region, in widespread losses in human and economic resources, and in the virtual erosion of the real foundations of the national independence of both Azerbaijan and Armenia.

On the basis of such an evaluation of the conflict, Iran never provided any military aid either of the two countries involved in the conflict.

On the contrary, Iran staked its diplomatic prestige on the efforts towards bringing peace to this critical region.

Iran welcomed any mediatory proposal which was put forward with the objective of establishing ceasefire between the two warring nations in the Caucasian region.

It has become clear by now that Russia is supporting Armenia politically and militarily in the Caucasian war, and the red-carpet reception given in Moscow to the Armenian President, Ter-Petrosyan, confirms this view.

On the other hand Turkey is providing arms and logistical supports to Azerbaijan. But both Russia and Turkey feel the need to exonerate themselves from the charges of complicity in the prolongation of a useless and bloody armed conflict, and they have both hit upon similar

strategies in this connection. While the Russians and their agents in Armenia spread the rumor that Iran is giving military assistance to Azerbaijan, Turkish agents in Azerbaijan are creating the belief in the public opinion that Iran is selling arms to Armenia.

Iran has never given any guns and ammunition to either Azerbaijan and Armenia. The Islamic Republic wants the bloodshed to be ended and peace and stability to be restored to the Caucasian region.

Iraqi Stance 'Not Conducive' to POW Solution

NC1006183993 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 31 May 93 p 2

[Editorial: "The POW Issue"]

[Text] To most people the bitter chapter in the history of ties between Iran and Iraq, dealing with the war, came to an end on Aug. 20, 1988, i.e. some five years ago. But that is not the case to people, in either country, whose loved ones are still being kept in captivity in internment camps or that have no definite answer on the fates of their loved ones.

The latest reminder of the bitter chapter to the Iranian people came just this past Friday. A funeral procession was held for 500 martyrs of the "sacred defense" from Tehran University to Tehran's cemetery amid intense grief.

The Islamic Republic has been both active and intent about ending the sorrow of those in either country tormented by the as yet unresolved consequences of the war. That is why concurrent with the funeral procession, Tehran freed one hundred Iraqi POWs. This latest move by Iran in the Iran-Iraq POW tragedy follows another similar one earlier last month (Wed. May 19) in which a batch of 200 Iraqi POWs were released, again unilaterally. According to the Iranian agency in charge of the POW affairs, with the Friday release the total number of Iraqis freed by Iran in 1992-93 on a unilateral basis have exceeded 3500.

Based on a revelation by deputy speaker of Majlis Hasan Ruhani last month, there are another 20,000 Iraqi POWs where the above released ones came from. According to this same official there are also some 5000 Iranian being held in Iraqi POW camps. The estimate by Iran on the number of POWs living in bondage in Iraq is based on the debriefing of released Iranian POWs as a result of the various swaps, pictures and other materials printed by Iraq about Iranian POWs during and after the war, airing of the Iranian POW voices from the Iraqi radio and a number of other means. In general, Iran has got convincing proofs on what it says and claims, and it is ready to share its information with Iraq or any other concerned organization. In the meantime, Baghdad has been adamantly refusing everything and been uncooperative.

Although Baghdad had formerly made some claims on the number of its own POWs in Iran, it was not until the announcement by Mr. Ruhani that Iran said anything on their number. The change of policy must have had a reason. The 20,000 or so being held in Iran are the fathers, husbands, brothers, sons... [ellipsis as published] of hundreds of thousands of Iraqi who are eagerly awaiting the return of their loved ones. Thus, Tehran must have revealed the number to raise hope among Iraqis and to bring renewed pressure on Baghdad to do something about them. How much longer must they wait?

The resolution of the outstanding issues between Baghdad and Tehran, specially something as vital as the POW issue, requires goodwill, sincerity, and commitment in the absence of which the matter will not be solved. The repeated unilateral releases by Tehran are to indicate to Baghdad and possible concerned international organizations, that Tehran is ready and has what it takes to resolve the matter.

The latest act of sabotage against Iran originating from Iraq by the Iranian counter-revolutionaries is not conducive to the atmosphere of trust needed to resolve the unsettled issues between the two countries. Also, Baghdad must have arrived at his basic yet important fact that the Iraqi POW drama will not be solved until that of Iran is.

UN Envoy Seeks Help to Restore Peace in Tajikistan

LD1106121193 Tehran IRNA in English 1155 GMT 11 Jun 93

[Text] Tehran, June 11, IRNA—The U.N. chief's special envoy for Tajik affairs Ismat Kittani, now visiting Iran, on Thursday requested Tehran to cooperate with him to establish truce in Tajikistan and restore lasting peace to the country.

Speaking at a meeting with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, Kittani said during his stay in Tajikistan he had realized that Iran exercized deep influence on that country because of their common historial, cultural, linguistic and religious bonds.

Therefore, he said, in order to defuse the crisis in Tajikistan he needed help from major regional countries, particularly the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Velayati said Iran was concerned about the continued clashes, massacre of innocent people and the situation of refugees in Tajikistan.

He vowed that the Islamic Republic would do its best, as before to help restore peace and tranquility to Tajikistan and voiced Tehran's preparedness to cooperate with the U.N. chief's envoy in this regard.

It was also agreed that Kittani pay another visit to Iran for further coordination of action with Iranian officials in a near future.

Pakistan

Spokesman Refutes Report on Forces' Actions in Somalia

BK1306143893 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman has contradicted reports of some international media regarding Pakistani troops' firing on a Somali crowd. Clarifying the situation, the spokesman said a Somali armed group fired on Pakistani troops holding a strong point at the km 4 roundabout in Mogadishu where earlier Aidid gunmen had ambushed Pakistani troops on 5 June resulting in heavy casualties. Pakistani troops manning the post returned the fire as a result of which four Somalis were injured, but no person was killed.

Sharif Visits Wounded Soldiers

BK1306084893 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, has said the sacrifices offered by the officers and jawans [soldiers] of the Pakistan Army in Somalia will go down as a golden chapter in history. He said this in an interview during a visit to the CMH [Combined Military Hospital] in Rawalpindi this morning where he inquired about the welfare of those soldiers who sustained injuries in Mogadishu while on duty as members of the UN force. The prime minister said that with their bravery they have proved to the world that Pakistan stands in the forefront of jihad against terrorism. He said that all nations along with Pakistan need to adopt practical steps to root out terrorism for upholding fundamental rights. The prime minister appealed to the international community to take necessary steps [words indistinct] rights abuses in occupied Kashmir and Bosnia-Herzegovina. Earlier, the prime minister paid rich tributes to the jawans for serving the noble cause of peace in Somalia. He said that by their sacrifices they have established high traditions of devotion to duty. Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif also issued instructions for provision of best possible treatment to those who sustained injuries.

Party Leader Wants Troops Withdrawn

BK1406101393 Karachi DAWN in English 14 Jun 93 p 16

[Text] Lahore, June 13—Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, Chairman, National Democratic Alliance (NDA), while talking to newsmen here on Sunday [13 June] demanded that Paksitan troops should be witherawn from Somalia and instead sent to Bosnia, where the western countries were reluctant to send their troops.

He said that instead of troops Pakistan should despatch food grains and medicines required by the famine stricken people of Somalia and NGOs [nongovernmental organizations] could extend their help in this connection.

"It was not a proper decision to send Pakistan troops to Somalia where not only our soldiers had been killed but there were reports that Pakistan troops had also killed some Somalians there," he stated.

This had caused strong reaction among the people of Somalia and there was a likelihood of similar reaction in other African countries, which would not be in our national interest, he said.

Sharif Rules Out Midterm Elections, Emergency in Punjab

BK1206162093 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif has said he is making sincere efforts for national reconciliation which is imperative for the solidarity, progress, and prosperity of the country. Talking to newsmen in Lahore today, he said the government always needs the cooperation of the opposition to run the affairs of the state. He has made a sincere offer of reconciliation with the opposition and he hopes the other side will also respond positively. He said the politicians can contact him directly or indirectly after completion of the groundwork by the reconciliation committees. The committee set up for reconciliation with the People's Democratic Alliance [PDA] will meet the relevant PDA committee in Islamabad tomorrow afternoon. The prime minister said the negotiations for reconciliation should be held without any preconditions. He said the nation today is united like a rock just as it was at the time of the movement for the establishment of Pakistan and the people can fully distinguish between their friends and enemies. There is democracy in the country, the parliament is functioning according to the Constitution, the judiciary is totally independent, there is no restriction of any kind on the press, and there is complete freedom of speech, he added.

Mohammad Nawaz Sharif said certain elements have started the process of setting up their own courts and handing down verdicts to create controversy about the judiciary. The people will foil all such efforts because they fully well recognize their well-wishers.

The prime minister said the federal government has not started any kind of confrontation with the provinces. The fact is that the confrontation has been started by the provinces and it should be stopped forthwith. He said the entire nation is behind him and merely a handful of people cannot block the people's movement for progress and prosperity.

Answering a question about the midterm elections, the prime minister said he understands that every government should complete its term according to the mandate given to it by the people. He added that he will fulfill his constitutional obligations under all circumstances.

About the imposition of the state of emergency in Punjab, Nawaz Sharif said the provincial government

has no power to declare a state of emergency. Such powers are vested in the federal government and the parliament. The parliament can adopt a resolution with the support of 50 percent of its members for the declaration of a state of emergency, but the resolution is again brought before the parliament after 60 days elapse for its extension or other action. The prime minister categorically stated that the imposition of the state of emergency is beyond the powers of the provincial government.

The prime minister reiterated his government's resolve to provide basic amenities to the people and to end injustice, tyranny, and other social evils in society. He said all possible steps are being taken to enable Pakistan to stand in the ranks of the developed countries of the world.

Praising the positive and constructive role played by the national press during the 38-day crisis, Nawaz Sharif said this role has enhanced the prestige of the national press both within and outside the country, and this should serve as a trend-setting factor and an element of basic training for journalists.

Appeals to Unity of Democratic Forces

BK1306030793 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif has appealed to democratic forces, both inside and outside the assemblies, to cooperate with his party to ensure the supremacy of the Constitution and the strengthening of democracy. The prime minister, who is also the president of the Pakistan Muslim League, was addressing the members of the Pakistan Muslim League's Punjab parliamentary party. He said his party's sole aim is the promotion of democratic values and the supremacy of law and the Constitution. He criticized those negative forces who are bent upon destroying democratic values and the Constitution.

The prime minister expressed happiness that the members of the Punjab assembly, while rejecting those who believe in politics of deceit and deception, have become united for the supremacy of democratic values. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif said the extraconstitutional, extrademocratic, and defeatist elements will very soon meet their proper fate. He added that if we rise above our personal differences and work together, we will not only come out our present predicaments, but will also make the future of coming generations bright. He commended the role of the judiciary and said it has earned its place in history by giving its verdict in favor of the supremacy of law and the Constitution.

Chaudhary Parvez Elahi, the parliamentary leader of the Punjab assembly, said our opponents dissolved the Punjab assembly at the time when they realized that they could not face us within the ambit of law and the Constitution.

Statement Issued Following Government-Opposition Talks

BK1306164893 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] The first round of talks between the negotiating teams of the government and the opposition was held in Islamabad today to hammer out a political reconciliation. The talks, which lasted nearly four hours, were held in a very cordial atmosphere and there was a detailed exchange of views. A joint statement read out at the end of the talks said that there was a consensus at the meeting that the nation is currently facing political and constitutional crises. To overcome these crises, it was decided th[illegible] all irritants standing in the way of genuine political understanding be removed in light of the speeches made by Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif and opposition leader Ms. Benazir Bhutto at the National Assembly on 31 May. The People's Democratic Alliance [PDA] feels that the grave political crisis faced by the nation can only be overcome if free and fair elections to the national and provincial assemblies are held as early as possible under national governments at the federal and provincial levels. The government side felt that the current crisis is the product of anomalies in the Constitution which have affected the supremacy of the parliament and, therefore, these anomalies should be removed immediately. It was decided that to discuss these issues further, the next round of talks will be held on 15 June.

Answering a question on the anomalies in the Constitution, retired Lieutenant General Abdul Majid Malik, the federal minister and leader of the government's negotiating team, said that Article 58 2-B is the root of all anomalies. He said that they held talks on the modalities of elections and election laws as well and agreed to hold detailed talks on other issues. He said that at today's session the two sides expressed their concern and each member expressed his views on various topics. He said that the PDA mentioned references and court cases against some of their leaders and the dismissed employees. He said that talks will be held on these issues and the government feels that all disputed issues should be settled at the same time.

When asked to comment on the prime minister's speech at the National Assembly, when he said that the government would unilaterally take some steps, retired Lt. Gen. Majid Malik said that the issue was raised by the PDA team and it was noted. He said that the government team is likely to give a reply on it in the next round of talks.

PDA team leader Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri said that both sides expressed their positions in the talks. He said that in order to create a good atmosphere, the government can make certain gestures including withdrawal of court references. He said that his side does not like to include the references in the agenda and would like to talk about national issues.

When asked whether talks were held on the government-opposition [words indistinct] agreement of 1991,

Defense Minister Syed Ghaus Ali Shah, who is a member of the government team, said that this is the first time that the two sides have deliberated on all national issues with an open mind. The government side included federal ministers, retired Lt. Gen. Abdul Majid Malik and Syed Ghaus Ali Shah, [word indistinct] Chief Ajmal Khattak, and Pakistan Progressive Party Leader Mir Hafiz Bizenjo. The PDA team included Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri, Senator Iqbal Haider, Shafqat Mahmud, Kabir Ali Wasti, Malik Hamid Sarfraz, Syed Wazarat Hussain Naqvi, and (Ashrafyab) Khattak.

Punjab Governor, Others Comment on Assembly Restoration

BK1006103793 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 10 Jun 93

[Text] Punjab Governor Chaudhary Altaf Hussain has said that in accordance with the decision of the Lahore High Court, the provincial chief minister will have total control of the administration and he will enjoy all the legal powers of the executive head of the province. Talking to newsmen in Lahore yesterday, he said he is responsible for having the complicated issues settled in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. He said the provincial government is doing everything possible to avoid any confrontation with the federal government in the larger interests of the nation.

Punjab Chief Minister Mian Manzoor Ahmad Wattoo, addressing the meeting of the provincial assembly members in Lahore last night, said he will serve the people with a new spirit and dedication. He said the independence of the judiciary and the supremacy of the law are dear to every well-wisher of the country.

While addressing a news conference in Lahore yesterday, Chaudhary Parwez Elahi, the leader of the opposition in the Punjab Assembly, said the Lahore High Court's order is a moral victory for the forces working for the political stability and strengthening of democratic institutions in the country. He said by restoring the National Assembly and suspending the Punjab governor's order dissolving the provincial assembly, the superior courts have added a golden chapter to the history of Pakistani judiciary.

Fifteen members of the Punjab Assembly were sworn in as provincial ministers in Lahore last night. Punjab Governor Chaudhary Altaf Hussain administered the oath. The portfolios of the ministers will be announced later.

Chief Minister's Advisers Resign

BK1006164093 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 10 Jun 93

[Text] Punjab Chief Minister Mian Manzoor Ahmad Wattoo chaired a special meeting of his cabinet in Lahore this afternoon. He asked the ministers and the elected representatives to utilize all resources for the early completion of the development projects. He said his government's foremost objective is to ensure the supremacy and rule of law.

The Cabinet strongly condemned the kidnapping of the Punjab Assembly's secretary. The chief minister instructed the administration to do everything possible to trace and recover him.

Two advisers to the Punjab chief minister have resigned. In their separate statements in Lahore today, Mian Tahir Mahmud and Naimullah Khan Shahani said they have resigned their posts as a protest against the chief minister's unconstitutional and undemocratic action in recommending the dissolution of the Punjab Assembly. They reposed confidence in the leadership of Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif and Chaudhary Parwez Elahi, the leader of the Pakistan Muslim League Parliamentary Party [MLPP] in the Punjab Assembly.

Chaudhary Parwez Elahi, the MLPP leader in the Punjab Assembly, said the Lahore High Court's decision is a major victory for the democratic forces. Talking to newsmen in Lahore today, he claimed that Punjab Assembly members will never support a chief minister who had deprived them of their assembly seats by recommending the dissolution of the provincial assembly.

Bhutto Protests Court Ruling

BK1106142993 Karachi DAWN in English 11 Jun 93 p 1

[Text] Islamabad, June 10—The Leader of the Opposition PDA [People's Democratic Alliance], Ms Benazir Bhutto, said on Thursday [10 June] the political crisis in the country had deepened with the "supra-constitutional" order of the Lahore High Court in the Punjab Assembly dissolution case.

In her first comment on the judgement which is likely to strenghthen Mr Nawaz Sharif in the province, Ms Bhutto said: "The political crisis in the country has reached such proportions that it has touched the judiciary."

Speaking at a news conference in her chamber at the National Assembly, Ms Bhutto attacked the judges directly and said: "One of the judges who was sitting on the Supreme Court bench was involved in the hanging of Prime Minister."

This comment was apparently aimed at those judges who were part of the bench which convicted Ms Bhutto's father, Z.A. Bhutto in 1979 by a split decision following which Bhutto was hanged in April that year.

Ms Bhutto said the country was passing through its most serious crisis and Supreme Court judgement restoring the National Assembly was "dangerous for the country."

She said the judiciary was acquiring a role which had not been provided in the Constitution, like challenging the

rights of a provincial governor in the case of the Punjab Assembly dissolution, now being heard by Lahore High Court.

She said the political crisis in the country would not go away with the legal judgement given in the Punjab Assembly case. "It will not change the political situation," she said.

The Prime Minister, she said, did not appear serious about resolving the political crisis as he only had three options: win the Punjab government but face continued political uncertainty and crisis, lose Punjab and face a no-confidence vote in the centre, or rise to the occasion and strengthen the system by ending political polarisation and holding free and fair elections.

Speaker Says Dissolution Stands

BK1306023093 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 12 Jun 93

[Text] The full bench of the Lahore High Court this morning resumed the hearing of a constitutional petition challenging the dissolution of the Punjab assembly. Khalid Anwar, counsel for petitioner Chaudhary Parvez Elahi, and the counsels for the Punjab governor and the chief minister—Mr. Abdul Hafiz Pirzada, Mr. Fakhruddin G. Ibrahim, and Raja Mohammad Anwar—argued before the court on the inclusion of the Punjab governor as a necessary party in the case. Earlier, Abdul Hafiz Pirzada moved an application before the full bench of the high court on behalf of the Punjab governor and chief minister pleading that further proceedings in the case be stopped so that they could move the Supreme Court to transfer the case to some other high court. The application was made in view of the Lahore High Court's interim order of 9 June which, according to them, nullifies various articles of the Constitution.

Meanwhile, the speaker of the Punjab assembly has said in an order that a session of the provincial assembly, as requisitioned by 87 opposition members, cannot meet as the assembly stands dissolved. He said that the Lahore High Court had suspended the order of the Punjab governor dissolving the provincial assembly, but had not suspended the chief minister's advice recommending the dissolution of the Punjab assembly.

Court Demands Explanation

BK1306151093 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] The Lahore High Court today issued show-cause notice to the speaker of the Punjab Assembly as to why contempt proceedings should not be initiated against him for misinterpreting the interim order of the court and refusing to call the session of the assembly. The five-member bench headed by the chief justice, Mr. Justice Mahboob Ahmad, issued notice on a petition moved by Chaudhary Parvez Elahi through his counsel during today's proceedings. The petitioner contended that whereas the full bench had suspended the impugnment order of the governor and restored the provincial assembly and the cabinet as on 29 May, the speaker, Mr. Sayeed Ahmad Manhes, had given his own interpretation to the interim order implying that the assembly stood dissolved. The petitioner's contention was that the speaker, who was a supporter of the chief minister, Mian Manzur Wattoo, was deliberately giving a wrong interpretation to the interim order of the court to protect Mr. Wattoo from the passage of the no-confidence motion already moved against him. Notice was issued to the speaker for the 29th of this month.

Another application from the petitioner requesting the court to further clarify its interim order of 9 June was fixed for tomorrow. Meanwhile, Raja Mohammad Anwar, counsel for the respondent, continued his submission to justify the dissolution of the provincial assembly. He also moved an application in the court to summon the petitioner, Mr. Parvez Elahi; former chief minister, Mr. Ghulam Haider Wyne; and some other members of the provincial assembly for cross examination. The hearing will continue tomorrow.

Assembly Secretary Denies Abduction

BK1406030393 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 14 Jun 93

[Text] Punjab Assembly Secretary Chaudhary Habibullah has reportedly appeared before the assistant commissioner in Islamabad. According to the PPI, he denied reports that he was abducted and said that he had been staying with some of his relatives in Islamabad of his own free will. He said he was neither abducted nor mistreated by anyone. He added that the affidavit he has provided to the assistant commissioner contains details of the reasons why he had arrived in Islamabad from Lahore. The secretary requested that the affidavit be considered as part of his statement, which he is making voluntarily.

NWFP Speaker Files Petition Against Assembly Dissolution

BK1306024693 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 13 Jun 93

[Text] Haabibullah Tarim, speaker of the Northwest Frontier Province [NWFP] assembly, has filed a separate writ petition in the Peshawar High Court against the dissolution of the provincial assembly. Earlier, talking to a delegation of the former members of the NWFP assembly, he expressed the view that the political situation had not deteriorated to an extent that it warranted the dissolution of the assembly. According to APP, he made it clear that the NWFP chief minister had come to know that a no-confidence motion will be moved against him. That is why instead of facing the motion politically, he advised the governor to dissolve the assembly.

Awami National Party leader Begum Nasim Wali Khan commended the speaker's step and said it is in the interest of supremacy of law and democracy.

Minister Says Presidency Behind Unconstitutional Acts

BK1306111993 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 13 Jun 93 p 12

[Text] Lahore, June 12—Interior Minister Chaudhary Shujaat Hussain alleged that certain unconstitutional activities were being carried out at the behest of the presidency which could lead the country towards a civil war.

He was talking to the journalists at the Prime Minister's House, Model Town, here on Saturday [12 June].

Ch Shujaat Hussain said under well considered plan, an atmosphere of [word indistinct] between the federal and provincial governments is being created. He said during the proceedings against the dissolution of the National Assembly in the Supreme Court, the counsel for the government took a plea [word indistinct] if the National Assembly and the government of Nawaz Sharif were restored, it would create a confrontation between the centre and Provinces.

The Interior Minister said the same plea was being implemented by the President House. In this connection, various unconstitutional activities were being carried out. As a part of those activities, members of the Punjab Assembly are being harassed to force them to change their loyalties.

[Words indistinct] the police was ordered by the Punjab Government to raid his residence where Rangers had been posted. He said keeping in view the Punjab Government attitude to create civil war like condition he ordered the commander of the Rangers not to retaliate in case the police raided his house.

New Islamic Front Called Alternative Political Force

BK1206135193 Islamabad THE NATION in English 12 Jun 93 p 12

[Text] Islamabad—Qazi Hussain Abmed chief of Jamaat-i-Islami [JI] has declared the formation of a new Islamic Front. The Pakistan Islamic Front (PIF) according to the JI chief is a new alternative political front for dealing with feudal and secular political parties in the country. The PIF if the brain child of JI and Qazi Hussain is the chief of the front too.

Addressing the media on Friday [11 June] at a local hotel after eight hours of intense closed door deliberations between his front party men Qazi disclosed that 23 committees have been formed to deal with essential policy matters and the convener of [word indistinct] committees will further recruit members and also function as advisers and policy makers of the front.

The front's organising committee in its first meeting on Friday discussed the prevailing political situation and the government's offer for reconciliations.

Qazi while praising the governments desire for peace with the opposition criticised the composition of the peace committees and urged the prime minister to hold serious talks with the political parties to reach a consensus. Qazi Hussain while praising the restoration of the assemblies blamed the Prime Minister and the President for the prevailing political chase and urged both the camps to work for the protection of the constitution.

While answering a question the senator expressed the opinion that martial law will not be in the country's favour and if the army want to play any role than it should only try to safe guard the democratic process. Qazi held the rulers responsible for creating political uncertainly in the country.

Commenting on the role of the PIF he said that the purpose is to liberate the people from the cruel exploiters and establish an Islamic system of government [words indistinct] talks with different like minded parties and hopes to a positive response from the JUL, JUP, and JAH. Qazi ruled out the front's participation in the coming Sindh by-election. "We are still in a nascent form and will need time to organise ourselves into a force.

The front he said will take part in the coming national poll if there is any. The senator urged the government to tread cautionsly in inviting foreign investment. He expressed fear that the sensitive departments like the telecom and others might fall into the hand of the Zionists and endanger national security.

Army Kills 6 Indian Soldiers Near Line of Control

BK1406094193 Islamabad THE NATION in English 14 Jun 93 p 1

[Text] Muzaffarabad—(KPI) Pakistan Army has repulsed an Indian move while killed 6 Indian soldiers and wounded several others near LOC [Line of Control] in Leepa sector. [as published] Two civilians were martyred by the Indian Army's firing. According to details in Saturday night Indian forces were moving towards Gorha top post and were engaged in building bunkers. Pakistan army which is keeping [words indistinct] warned Indian soldiers and later opened fire killing 6, injuring many others.

'Major Reshuffle' of Army Leadership Reported

BK1106143393 Islamabad THE NEWS in English 11 Jun 93 p 1

[Text] Islamabad—There has been a major reshuffle in army's top brass as several General Officers Commanding (GOC) have been assigned new positions. These changes were essential after promotions of several two-star generals to the next rank in this year's Promotion Board.

While two Major Generals have been posted out of the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), one Major General has been sent to the agency. Major General Afzal Janjua of ISI has now been posted as General Officer Commanding (GOC) of IX Division. Similary, another ISI officer Maj. Gen. Jamahed Ayaz, has been appointed DG DPI [expansion unknown] in the GHQ [General Headquarters] while Maj. Gen. Iftikhar Malik has been sent to the ISI.

Maj. Gen. Muhammad Arshad has been appointed Vice Chief of General Staff (VCGS) to assist Lt. Gen. Farrukh Khan, who was recently given a year's extension in the army.

The outgoing Director-General Military Intelligence (DGMI), Maj. Gen. Muhammad Mushtaq, is posted out as GOC of an infantry division in Lahore. Now, the MI [Military Intelligence] will be headed by Maj. Gen. Ali Kali Khan.

While Maj. Gen. Ghaziuddin Rana, GOC Jhelum Div, is posted out as GOC Lahore, Maj. Gen. Asif Bokhari has been posted as GOC 33 Div.

Commandant Pakistan Military Academy Maj. Gen. Maqhool Ahmed is appointed as GOC 33 Div. Maj. Gen. Salim Malik, Commander 5 Corps Reserve, will be replacing him at Kakul.

Maj. Gen. Saeeduz Zafar will be new commandant Staff College Quetta, a position vacated by Maj. Gen. Ali Kali Khan. It may be first time in the country's history when a Christian GOC, Maj. General Michael Peter, will be commanding to the 14 Div.

Maj. Gen. Pervaiz Masharraf, GOC [place name indistinct] will be the new DGMO (Director General Military Operations), while Maj. Gen. Saeed Wallah, Director Ordinance Services (DOS), has become Deputy Quartermaster General (DQMG). Brig. Mahmood Raza will be the new DOS. Brig. Raza was commandant COD [expansion unknown], Rawalpindi. Brig. Usman Shah will be replacing Brig. Mahmood Raza as Commandant COD.

Maj. Gen. Zaidi, Director General Artillery, has been sent to the Joint Staffs Headquarters, Maj. Gen. Mushto Tariq will be the new DG Artillery, while Maj. Gen. Ziaul Haq has been appointed as Director-General Combat Development.

The postings and transfers of three-star generals is expected somewhere in August or Sep this year.